FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

Cease-Fire, Mediation — A cease-fire between the warring Palestinian factions fighting for control of the Al-Baddawi camp and Tripoli, northern Lebanon, was scheduled to take effect at 1030 GMT on 9 November, according to "officials" in Doha cited by AFP. In a preliminary report, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah told QNA that an initial cease-fire agreement between the parties involved had been reached during his visit to Damascus, according to Doha radio. He and Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani had been sent to Damascus by the GCC summit meeting to hold talks on its behalf with Syrian and Palestinian leaders in an attempt to end the fighting, the radio added. While in Damascus, the two officials held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum, several PLO Executive Committee members, and several Fatah officials, including dissident leaders Nimr Salih and Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, according to Damascus radio.

Another mediation mission was undertaken by former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who visited Damascus at the behest of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Beirut radio stated. Karami spoke to 'Arafat by telephone, Radio Monte Carlo reported, following the latter's contacts with municipal leaders of Tripoli and the Lebanese Islamic Unification Movement, all of whom demanded that he call a cease-fire. Earlier, Beirut radio broadcast a recording of 'Arafat saying that the fate of Tripoli is "up to men of opinion and Tripoli leaders" and that he is "under the protection of this city." Meanwhile, AFP cited a telephone interview with PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir in which he denied that negotiations were under way to allow 'Arafat to leave Tripoli.

Military Situation — Syrian- and Libyan-backed dissident forces completed their occupation of the oil refinery and the heights overlooking Al-Baddawi on 8 November, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported, adding that white flags had been raised in the camp as 'Arafat supporters attempted to withdraw their arms, ammunition, and forces to Tripoli since the camp was considered to have "fallen militarily." On the other hand, 'Arafat told AFP that his supporters were still holding off "repeated attacks" on the camp.

Describing the continuing attacks, an "official Palestinian source" quoted by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, said that Syrian forces "removed" the forces of the Palestine Liberation Army, the Fatah dissidents, and the PFLP-General Command from the battle and replaced them with Syrian troops. Meanwhile, *AL-BA'TH*, cited by Damascus radio, reiterated Syria's claim that it "has nothing to do with the current fratricide" and that Syrian forces have "not fired a single shot."

Reaction, Contacts on Fighting — The Kuwaiti National Assembly discussed the fighting around Tripoli and approved a proposal calling on the government to "suspend its financial aid to Syria," KUNA reported. The Assembly also called on the belligerents to come to the negotiating table and "denounced those who interfere in Palestinian affairs." YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih telephoned Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and asked him to "quickly intervene to stop the fighting," according to WAKH. Meanwhile, Al-Qadhdhafi held a telephone conversation with the Syrian president, the Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported, during which they agreed that 'Arafat "must leave Tripoli" and then "come forward to a Fatah conference."

New Organization — A meeting of Fatah cadres, according to the Voice of Lebanon, agreed to form the "Black October Organization" to carry out "a number of assassinations." The cadres also reiterated their allegiance to 'Arafat and called on Arab regimes to end the "silence" about the events in northern Lebanon and stop interpreting them as an "internal mutiny," the radio added.

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil asked the U.S. ambassador to contact Washington to set a date for Al-Jumayyil to visit the United States and meet with President Reagan, Beirut radio reported.

Syria

If the United States attacks Syria, "the Syrian reply will not stop at the limits of a battle whose dimensions and results may be decided by the United States and Israel," Damascus radio warned. Another commentary broadcast by the radio stressed that an attack on Syria will not be as easy as the 1956 "tripartite aggression" against Egypt since Syria has the willpower and ability to respond more powerfully, making the Mediterranean Sea and the Arab arena a "theater for the greatest battles." Meanwhile, the Syrian ambassador in London told British Independent Television that a conflict caused by U.S. "aggression" against Syria would not be confined to one area. Such a conflict would be "large scale" because of the help "which we are supposed to get from our brothers and friends," he noted.

Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi told Al-Asad in a telephone call that Libya will directly participate in the fighting alongside Syria if the latter is attacked, Damascus radio reported.

Israel

Shamir Remarks — No one has cause to fear Israel unless he is plotting against it, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in remarks broadcast by IDF Radio. Speaking during a tour of IDF positions in Lebanon, Shamir reaffirmed Israel's desire to withdraw from Lebanese territory as soon as it is convinced that no more attacks will be launched from the area. Terrorist attacks against the IDF only serve to delay Israel's withdrawal, he said.

Relations With Egypt — Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche flew to Cairo for talks on bilateral relations with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, IDF Radio reported. The Egyptian invitation came in the wake of intense efforts by both countries to improve the atmosphere between them, the radio said.

Jordan

A Foreign Ministry official, in a statement broadcast by Amman radio, blamed "rancorous, agent factions" for a 7 November attack on Jordanian Embassy guards in Athens in which gunmen killed one guard and wounded another. An anonymous caller told AFP that the attack was the work of the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades," a group which claimed responsibility for recent attacks on Jordanian ambassadors in New Delhi and Rome. In an interview with Kuwait's *AS-SIYASAH*, published in Amman on 5 November by *AR-RA'Y*, King Husayn said Jordan has "irrefutable evidence" that the attack on the ambassadors was staged by the /Abu Nidal — Sabri al-Banna — organization, "which is very active in Syria." He accused Syria of seeking to undermine Jordanian security by enlisting "some elements" to carry out terrorist acts.

Iran-Iraq War

An attack on Iran's Khark Island oil terminal is "the only way" to end the military stalemate and would break Iran's will, a senior Iraqi diplomat stated in remarks reported by the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS*. Diplomats in Baghdad expect an imminent Iraqi attack on Khark, possibly with Soviet-made Scud-B missiles, the paper disclosed. Meanwhile, Iran's Navy commander inspected military installations on the island and at Bushehr, IRNA reported.

In another development, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio said 3,216 Iranians were killed in the fighting around Panjwin 2-7 November.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Materials on Situation in Northern Lebanon

Update on Military Situation

JN081628 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] For the sixth day running, the agent Syrian regime continues its war of aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese civilians in northern Lebanon. Finding itself unable to realize any progress on the ground, the Syrian regime sent more armored and special forces to the battlefield opposite Al-Baddawi camp and Tripoli under very heavy artillery and rocket fire. The suffering of our peoplein the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon and Tripoli is very great. There is no water or electricity and food supplies are almost finished.

An official Palestinian source a short while ago issued the following statement:

Today, the Syrian forces removed the treacherous forces of the liberation army, the dissidents, and Jibril forces from the attacking forces along the various axes and directly intervened in the war operations. The Syrian regime's forces used in the offensive, which lasted from 0600 to 1700, five tank battalions and five infantry battalions. They mounted a mad artillery and rocket shelling operation against the Palestinian camps and the Palestinian revolution forces' positions in which 90 rocket launchers were used. Our forces repulsed successive attacks, and the Syrian forces were unable to realize any progress on the ground and were forced to retreat.

Reacting to reports about a siege of the Al-Baddawi camp, the Palestinian official spokesman said that the fighting is raging far from the camp, which is still being exposed to savage shelling. Media reports that the Syrian forces have reached the Tripoli refinery are baseless. The spokesman said that our forces are holding their positions and are prepared for any eventualities despite the presence of Syrian concentrations that are preparing to mount an offensive agaisnt some Tripoli areas from the Al-Bihsas area.

The Syrian, Libyan, and agent forces have, since 0600 today, been attempting to advance along the two Turbul Mountain axes, using many tanks and vehicles. Our forces confronted today's attacks, destroying three tanks. The attacking forces were then forced to retreat. In the Al-Minyah-Dayr 'Ammar axis, shelling still continues with various kinds of weapons.

The Al-Baddawi camp and the roads leading to it are exposed to indiscriminate shelling. Syrian and Libyan rocket launchers have been shelling the camp since early this morning. The Syrian forces directed their shells at the Tripoli refinery.

Loyalists Say Tanks Captured

JN081630 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Our forces have repulsed a large-scale Syrian, Libyan, and agent forces' attack against the Al-Baddawi camp. Our forces captured two tanks and inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment on the attacking forces. Syrian and Libyan tanks and dozens of corpses still litter the streets.

Al-Wazir on Defense, 'Arafat Presence

NC090746 Paris AFP in English 0726 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon, Nov 9 (AFP) — Loyalists of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat today repulsed a two-pronged attack by Palestinian dissidents and Syrian and Libyan forces, a ranking PLO official said. Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], who is Mr 'Arafat's chief deputy, said the attack on the Al-Baddawi camp north of Tripoli began with heavy shelling. Then, he said, tanks and troops tried unsuccessfully to move toward the camp from the Tallat Nidal hill. He also said that a large number of attackers had been captured, and that 16 of them had been transferred to the new PLO headquarters in Tripoli itself.

Abu Jihad, in a telephone interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, also denied reports of negotiations to allow Mr 'Arafat to leave Tripoli. Mr 'Arafat was seen arriving at the Tripoli offices of the PLO at 8:15 a.m. (0615 GMT) today.

'Arafat: Al-Badawi Holding Out

NC082229 Paris AFP in English 2226 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Beirut, Nov 8 (AFP) — Forces loyal to Yasir 'Arafat were still battling to hold Al-Baddawi refugee camp tonight as attempts were reportedly underway to evacuate the Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader. Mr 'Arafat told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on the telephone from his headquarters in Tripoli at 2100 GMT that his troops were holding off repeated attacks from Syrian-backed dissidents on the camp, just north of Tripoli.

Arab sources in Doha (Qatar) had said earlier that contacts were being made to evacuate Mr 'Arafat to a French aircraft carrier, but a Palestinian source denied the report. In Paris, French naval headquarters said no French ships were presently off Tripoli and the reports "without foundation." The Christian phalangist radio, the Voice of Lebanon, said the PLO leader had been flown to a French ship by helicopter in the afternoon.

Kahlid al-Hasan, a member of the Central Committee of the main PLO group Fatah, said a delegation of Arab ministers would meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus tonight.

Several thousand demonstrators protested outside the Syrian Emabssy in Paris tonight, demanding a halt to what they called the slaughter of the PLO and its elected leaders.

Dissident Urges Reform Dialogue

NC081140 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 7 Nov 83 pp 1, 10

[Text] Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], commander of the opposition movement in Fatah, yesterday responded to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by saying: We do not want his depar-

ture. We invite him to a dialogue for reform. Instead of opening fire on us, let him come here so that we may both open fire on Israel.

At a news conference held in Ar-Rawdah in western Al-Biqa', Abu Musa accused 'Arafat of rejecting the Palestinian people's efforts of mediation, of attempting to widen the internal conflict to include the Arab arena, and of claiming that Syria has been taking part in the fighting against his forces in Lebanon.

Abu Musa said: All that remains beside 'Arafat is the administrative department which has no connection with the armed struggle. Many forces of the Fatah movement have already joined us. We had hoped not to resort to a military solution, but to continue political and organizational efforts.

Abu Musa added: We must arrive at a final decision by addressing an invitation for a Palestinian national conference to every person complying with the membership conditions. From the organizational aspect, the question is urgent and necessary. We will take the initiative in calling for this conference. We will invite 'Arafat to attend the conference which will elect a new leadership. He who fails to attend will split himself from the conference and the leadership.

Abu Musa once again accused 'Arafat of committing mistakes and of departing from the principles and goals for which the Palestinian revolution was staged; this automatically drops him from membership.

He said the uprising is concrete proof that 'Arafat has abused Palestinian legitimacy and abandoned the goals which the Fatah movement unanimously agreed upon at previous conferences. He added: The forces which have joined our movement represent about 75 percent of the Fatah movement's fighters.

Regarding the battles in the north, Abu Musa said: Everybody is against internecine and military struggle. He accused 'Arafat of opening fire on his forces' positions and "of seeking pretexts for his departure from Lebanon in implementation of the pledge he made to Philip Habib in Beirut during the siege to leave Lebanon in 1983 and 1984, and he is opening fire on us to make us leave Lebanon."

Abu Musa added: "'Arafat is stirring up these clashes to justify his departure from Lebanon. We have no interest in fighting him; our interest is in staying in Lebanon and fighting Israel."

Regarding the Multinational Force in Beirut, he said: I do not advocate opening fire on the Italians and the French, but I am for opening fire on the Marines.

Regarding the operation against the Marine headquarters, Abu Musa said it showed the U.S. soldier as a dwarf despite U.S. attempts to portray him as a giant. The operation also shook the U.S. Army and the intelligence service, making them look stupid.

Answering a question, Abu Musa said: If I had the choice, I would not have carried out an operation against the French.

Rebel Radio's Call to 'Arafat

NC091028 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 0605 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, despite the fact that the Al-Baddawi camp has not yet emerged from the nightmare that grips our kinfolk, brothers, and children, Brother 'Arafat has taken this nightmare to beautiful Tripoli. The Arab nation's city is living in anxiety and apprehension now that 'Arafat's arrival and the stationing of artillery and rocket launchers in its streets by those loyal to him may expose it to destruction and make its good fraternal people a target for death, devastation, and destruction.

Despite the fact that the people of Tripoli — both those who support 'Arafat, such as the unification movement and the like, or those opposed to him, represented in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, which represents the largest sectors of the masses — told 'Arafat that they do not want destruction or devastation, 'Arafat has said nothing. The people still remember what 'Arafat said yesterday: that the forthcoming battle will take place in Tripoli. Why should the battle take place in Tripoli? Why should the battle take place in Al-Baddawi? Why should this battle take place at all, a battle which benefits no one?

The cause of the problem is that 'Arafat does not want to obey the decision of the majority in the PLO organizations and does not want to resort to revolutionary democracy. For this reason, his supporters are firing guns and spreading destruction. We would like to ask: Is this a solution? Is the killing of women and old men and children in Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi what is required? Is exposing Tripoli to devastation and destruction what is required? Is the slaying of the Lebanese nationalists, the brothers of the Arabs, what is required? why? What did Tripoli do to deserve having 'Arafat expose it to this situation? What did our kinfolk in Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi do to deserve having 'Arafat expose them to what they have encountered and are encountering? These questions (?do not have) answers. [words indistinct]

What does 'Arafat want? What do you want, Abu 'Ammar? Isn't what has happened enough? Isn't enough [words indistinct]? If you want the revolution and the revolutionaries, the road is open. Let us resort to a Fatah conference so that the revolutionaries can hand down their verdict. If you want something else, say so. In both cases, the solution does not lie in [words indistinct] or in the destruction of (?people), or in street fighting. Everyone knows the solution. If you want Palestine from the [Jordan] river to the Mediterranean, as you said, [words indistinct] as you used to say, we remind you with what Brother Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] said yesterday. He said that instead of (?firing) his guns at us, let 'Arafat come to us to fire our guns together at Israel. Does this call need any explanation or more (?elaboration). We do not think [words indistinct].

Dissident Radio Backs Syria

NC081614 Turbul Lebanon Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1452 GMT 8 Nov 83

["Political commentary"]

[Text] Brothers: Now that our people and revolution have risen against 'Arafat and his clique, 'Arafat can find no excuse to justify his defeat other than to put the blame on Syria and allege that those who are pursuing him are not the forces of uprising in Fatah, nor the Palestinian revolution's forces in general, but Syrian forces, as he claims. 'Arafat is making this claim to justify the defeats the Palestinian people and their revolutionary forces are inflicting on him, despite the fact that 'Arafat is aware that the Syrian forces are not interfering in what is taking place but are pained by it, and despite the fact that 'Arafat and his clique know that he alone is responsible for what is taking place.

What is happening is that the radios hostile to the Palestinian people and to fraternal Syria reiterate 'Arafat's allegations, starting with the Israeli enemy's radio, then the Phalangist radio, Sa'd Haddad's radio, and, not least, the Camp David radios in an attempt to involve Syria and Syria's heroic Arab Army in what is happening. Yes, this is what 'Arafat is claiming and alleging and this is what is being reiterated by all the enemy radios at a time when Tel Aviv and Washington are preparing to commit aggression against Arab Syria and at a time when Arab Syria is declaring a general mobilization to confront possibile U.S.-Israeli aggression against it.

Despite the fact that we regard Syria as our biggest sister and the primary and only defender of the Palestinian cause, we in the Palestine revolution radio say that we are not concerned with defending Syria, but we ask 'Arafat and his clique: What is the meaning of your coordination with the Israelis, the Americans, and all the enemies of Palestine in attacking Syria and in attempting to harm it? The answer is known and clear; it is known by all our masses and the masses of the Arab nation: Syria alone is defending the cause of the Palestinian people, and it alone is confronting U.S. imperialism, the NATO forces, and the Israeli enemy. The answer is known and clear; it is known by all the masses of the nation because Syria supports the Palestinian cause and prevents any deviation and any attempt to liquidate this cause, and because Syria supports the Palestinian revolution with all its capabilities. It also supports the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, which is raising the banner of Arabism and steadfastness in all of Lebanon's sky despite the Israeli occupation, the Phalangist hegemony, and 'Arafat's massacres against the Lebanese nationalists in Tripoli.

Brothers, we are not defending Syria. Syria does not need anybody to defend it as its stand is honorable, dignified, and proud. We are not defending Syria, but we remind the traitors who are attacking it and slandering its great Army that what they are saying is the same as what the enemies are saying against Syria. This too is an honor for Arab Syria.

As for us, the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution, we pledge to our masses that we will deepen cohesion with Arab Syria because it is the impregnable shield and sword. We pledge to our masses that we will be in the same trench with the leader of Arab steadfastness, Hafiz al-Asad, to defend the Palestinian cause and its people and to confront all those who are lurking around the Palestinian cause. Revolution until victory and liberation! May the banner of Arab Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese cohesion fly high!

'Arafat Meets Tripoli Leaders

NC081352 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1212 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Regarding the war in the north between Palestinian organizations, the Fatah dissidents continued their pressure on Al-Baddawi camp in an attempt to tighten their control militarily as has happened at Nahr al-Barid camp. The camp experienced heavy shelling today. Some shells also fell on the outskirts of Tripoli,where a shell hit the Bahjat Ghanim barracks and wounded one soldier.

A security report indicates that at 1304 clashes intensified around Al-Baddawi camp and its environs and that all types of weapons are being used. Two armored vehicles belonging to the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group were seen ablaze on the international highway near the Tripoli refinery. Several bodies of fighters were also seen. It was observed that heavy-caliber weapons were being removed from Al-Baddawi camp to Tripoli. Tripoli port was shelled at 1250 and one ship carrying asphalt was hit.

A meeting was held this morning at the Tripoli municipality building among representatives of city parties and organizations, Yasir 'Arafat, and Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement. After the meeting 'Arafat made the following statement:

[Begin recording] I came to inform the coordination committee and Tripoli's functionaries, men, and leaders of this Islamic city — which is noble in history, civilization, people, patriotism, Arabism, religion, and Islam — of my decision that with respect to Tripoli it is up to men of opinion and Tripoli leaders to make the decision on whatever concerns the city, including war and peace. I am under the protection of this city. [end recording]

'Abdallah Babitsi, speaking on behalf of Tripoli parties and Islamic groups, said:

[Begin recording] [Babitsi] This is not the first meeting with Brother Abu 'Ammar. These efforts became fruitful after 84 successive hours of continuous work so that Tripoli can make its own decision and convey this decision to Brother Abu 'Ammar for him to abide by. This decision is to protect Tripoli and not ruin or destroy it.

Tripoli has an Islamic national role; the stronger it becomes, the more Tripoli can do toward the Palestine question and the Lebanese question. Muslims in Tripoli in particular are looking forward to a solution of the Lebanese question in a way which will include justice, equality, strength, and fairness. We believe that we have succeeded up to this moment since Abu 'Ammar is not fighting from Tripoli, but is abiding by Tripoli's decision. We ask His Excellency Lieutenant General Hafiz al-Asad to under-

stand this stand by the people and leaders of Tripoli and to appreciate Brother Abu 'Ammar's action to avert the destruction and ruin of Tripoli.

[Unidentified reporter] Haj 'Abdallah, do we understand that Tripoli is now averting a battle?

[Babitsi] The agreement is clear. The commitment to the agreement has been declared in the presence of all organizations, functionaries, and political leaders in Tripoli. What remains is the implementation of what has been agreed upon in the field by all the parties carrying weapons. The carrying of weapons must be replaced by the language of dialogue, understanding, and discussion of all that will avert the destruction of Tripoli.

[Reporter] What was the response of Abu Musa?

[Babitsi] A committee comprising Tripoli leaders has been set up to convey Tripoli's stance and which it has communicated to Abu 'Ammar, who approved it. The committee will make the necessary contacts to consolidate the cease-fire and to replace violence and destruction with dialogue and understanding among all warring parties. [end recording]

Cease-Fire 'in Principle' Reached

LD0990738 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0528 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 9 Nov (KUNA) — The QATAR NEWS AGENCY today reported that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that a cease-fire between the two warring wings of the Fatah movement has been reached in principle and its implementation will be made public after consultations with the sides, which is taking place at present, is completed. The agency attributed to Shaykh as-Sabah, who together with the Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmad ibn Sayif al-Thani returned from Damascus this morning after a mission in the Syrian capital, as having said that he and the Qatari minister were delegated to convey to Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad "the concern of the leaders of the GCC countries about what is happening among the Palestinian brethren and the need for the solidarity of all Arab efforts to halt the shedding of Palestinian blood." Shaykh as-Sabah said that "President al-Asad stressed in turn Syria's great concern with what is happening on the Palestinian arena, sharing with the leaders of the GCC countries the need for the Palestinian brethren to reach a formula to maintain their unity and to realize the Arabs' hopes in them."

Shaykh as-Sabah said that he and the Qatari minister also met with all the leaderships of the Palestinian resistance factions present in Damascus, "which were unanimous about the importance of ending the fighting among the brothers at arms and to maintain the unity of the PLO and use its potentials against the common enemy."

Shaykh as-Sabah yesterday emphasized the concern of the GCC "that the solution of the problems among the brethren should be a peaceful one and that they point their weapons away from one another and do their utmost to prevent the shedding of Arab blood in order to devote their potentials toward their Zionist enemy." He added that "with the support of the Syrian brethrens it would be possible to overcome the crisis and find a suitable peaceful solution to stop the fighting."

Factions Ignoring Cease-Fire

NC091053 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The warring factions in Tripoli are not abiding by the cease-fire agreement, which was scheduled to take place at 1230 [1030 GMT]. Explosions and bursts of gunfire continue to be heard throughout the town, and the battles are still raging on the entrances of the Al-Baddawi camp.

Mediators See Palestinian Leaders

JN082134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani held a meeting in Damascus this evening with PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and PLO Executive Committee members Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Talal Naji, Muhammad Khalifah, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, Ahmad Mahir al-Yamani, and Ahmad Zuhji an-Nashashibi. Joining the meeting at a later time were Nimr Salih and Qadri Abu Quwayq, Fatah Central Committee members, and Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah and Colonel Sa'id Musa, Fatah Revolutionary Council members. Discussions dealt with the situation in the Palestinian arena and means of solving the existing conflict among the fighting parties in the Palestinian arena.

USSR Reportedly Contacts Syria

LD091117 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1058 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 9 Nov (SPA) — Mahmud 'Abbas, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has stated that the Soviet Union is currently engaged in intense contacts with Syria to halt the operations aimed against the Palestinian revolution in northern Lebanon. Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, last Sunday received a Soviet envoy in Tunis who handed him a message from the Soviet leadership to Yasir 'Arafat, the contents of which have not been made public.

ALF on Syrian-Libyan 'Aggression'

JN060710 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The AFL has stressed that the timing of the siege of Tripoli, the attempts by the Syrian and Libyan regimes and their tools to ruin the Palestinian revolution, and the Iranian enemy's attempts to defile Iraq's territory and the Panjwin sector prove that the Zionist and Iranian allies and the treasonous regimes in Damascus and Libya seek to implement a plot against the Palestinian revolution. In a statement today, the ALF Central

Committee reiterated that it will continue to defend the PLO, its armed existence, and its independent national decisionmaking, which is committed to pursuing the revolution until repatriation, self-determination, and sovereignty are achieved.

The ALF said that for the third successive day, the Syrian and Libyan regimes and their agents have been continuing their treacherous attack on the Palestinian revolution's positions and the camps in northern Lebanon in an attempt to annihilate the people and subjugate the positions of our revolution which adhere to the legitimacy and reject the relinquishment of the independent Palestinian decision. The AFL added that if the developments of the past months have proved the conspiratorial and liquidatory intentions of the Damascus and Tripoli regimes and their tools, the current developments in northern Lebanon clearly prove that the enemies of the Palestinian revolution are completing what the Zionist enemy started in June 1983, and have begun what they believe the last step in liquidating the Palestinian question itself.

The ALF added: It is no coincidence that what happened in the summer of 1982 is repeating itself; that is, when the Zionist enemy's invasion of Lebanon and its siege of Beirut coincided with the battles east of Basra. Now the siege of Tripoli and the attempts by the Syrian and Libyan regimes and their tools to finish off the Palestinian revolution coincide with the Iranian enemy's attempt to defile Iraq's territory in the Panjwin sector. This proves that the Zionist and Iranian enemies and the treasonous regimes in Damascus and Tripoli seek to implement a design against the Arab liberation movement. If support for the Palestinian revolution is a pan-Arab duty, then support for the fighting and strong Iraq and the denunciation of Iranian aggression is also a pan-Arab stand. The alliance of the enemies can only be defeated through a unified action. Had Iraq not been engaged with the Iranian enemy, the Zionist enemy and its agents would not have dared to harm the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people.

'Arafat Supporters in Bonn

LD071155 Hamburg DPA in German 1141 GMT 07 Nov 83

[Text] Bonn, 7 Nov (DPA) — Some 40 Palestinian followers of PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat, whose troops in Lebanon are surrounded by hostile Palestinians, on Monday occupied the office of the Arab League in Bonn and began an indefinite hunger strike. In a statement they said that they are protesting "the war of destruction against the PLO and Fatah supported by the mutineers and pro-Syrian troops." In reply to an inquiry, a spokesman for the Arab League said that nothing would be done against this campaign: "Our office is there for all Arabs."

DFLP's Hawatimah Comments

LD082049 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the DFLP, addressing a press conference in Algiers today, stressed the need for collective Arab effort to end the Palestinian clashes, clashes aimed at destroying the PLO and the right of the Palestinian people to create an independent state. Hawatimah considered the confrontations in northern Lebanon to be a self-destruction operation by Palestinian and Arab progressive forces.

He warned both the Palestinian loyalists and dissidents of the danger of a reenactment in northern Lebanon by the Americans of the operation against Grenada. Hawatimah said that, judging by the American strike force concentrated off Lebanon and the mobilization of reserve forces in Israel, America and Israel are waiting for a result to the Tripoli confrontations to attack simultaneously Syria, the Palestinians, and Lebanese progressive forces.

While noting that Yasir 'Arafat had been democrtically elected by the legitimate and legal bodies (?of) the PLO at the latest meeting of the PNC in Algiers, Hawatimah stated that the sole solution to the crisis could be found by resorting to the same bodies to settle the differences between the Fatah loyalists and dissidents. Speaking in favor of convening a PNC meeting as soon as possible, the DFLP general secretary said that the PLO's legitimate bodies are the only ones entitled to elect the leadership of the Palestinian revolution, and not forces who do not hesitate to resort to violence and shedding of Palestinian and Arab blood.

Red Crescent Appeal

JN081756 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1603 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Undated statement issued by Palestinian Red Crescent Society]

[Text] Our Palestinian people, who have been subjected to wars of annihilation and carnage in Tal az-Za'tar, Ar-Rashidiyah, Al-Burj ash-Shamali, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Sabra and Shatila, are now being subjected to a new massacre in Nahr al-Barid, Al-Baddawi, and Tripoli. Thousands of missiles, including Syrian and Libyan rockets and shells, are landing on these areas. There are hundreds of wounded children, women, and old people who are waiting for someone to resuce them.

We appeal to you to interfere and send necessary medical teams to Tripoli in order to halt the bloodshed. Life utilities are being destroyed, including sources of water and power. Thousands of people are badly in need of water, food, and shelter. Hundreds of bodies are left in the streets which threaten to spread disease among the citizens. We hope that you will interfere to lighten the catastrophe.

[Signed] The Palestinian Red Crescent Society

Fatah Conference Concludes in Tunisia 8 Nov

LD081918 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Fatah conference in Bizerte ended its work today in the presence of the Central Committee members, the directors of Palestinian offices abroad, and a number of Fatah political and military leaders. The participants issued a number of recommendations that will be passed on to the Central Committee concerning the methods of facing the explosive situation in

northern Lebanon and the future work of the movement at the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels. The conference also issued a political communique confirming the adherence of Fatah cadres to the legitimate leadership of the PLO and the commitment to defend the Palestinian revolution in order to secure the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Fatah 'Black October Organization'

NC090650 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0620 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that the Al-Baddawi camp continues to resist the offensives being launched by the Syrian-backed dissidents. As the ultimatum for the surrender of the Al-Baddawi camp expires today, the dissidents continue to bring pressure to bear on the loyalists to attain this objective.

In another development, the Kuwaiti parliament has recommended that Kuwaiti aid to Syria be cut, describing the incidents in northern Lebanon as a grave plot.

In the meantime, Fatah cadres have adopted a number of recommendations reiterating their allegiance to Yasir 'Arafat. The cadres called for breaking the silence that is being maintained by some Arab regimes toward the ongoing events in northern Lebanon. They also called on these regimes to discontinue their interpretation of the situation as being an internal mutiny. The conferees called on the Fatah Central Committee to confront the hostile forces and purge the movement of the conspiratorial elements.

It has been learned that the cadres agreed to form the Black October Organization [munazzamat tishrin al-aswad] to carry out a number of assassinations.

Baghdad Voice of PLO Comment on Syrian Mobilization

Action Against Israel Urged

JN082009 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1633 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Syrian regime declares general mobilization and calls up reservists as though the war will break out today or tomorrow, and as if this regime really wants to wage a war against the Zionist enemy and the U.S. Administration. The Arab nation from Basra to Tangiers and From Aleppo to Aden is fed up with the lies of the Syrian rulers and their media. The Arab nation is now apprehensive that this mobilization is directed against the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon. In fact, this is what is being done now. The Damascus rulers' propaganda is evident, and their claims that they want to declare war against Israel are now exposed by the Arab nation. Also exposed are the agent Syrian regime's media clamor and campaigns against imperialism and Zionism and its war of words against them. It has been proved that the Syrian rulers can do nothing except wage this war of words.

As to why the Syrian rulers declared general mobilization and called up reservists, any rational person in the Arab nation and the world can percieve that this is a propaganda campaign to cover up the Syrian regime's war against the Palestinian revolution and its massacre of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians in northern Lebanon. They are fighting the Palestinian revolution which waged the 1982 war in Lebanon with unparalleled steadfastness and with epoch-making heroism.

Everyone now knows the Syrian regime's story of fighting the Arab nation's enemies. This has become a banal and tedious story. The Syrian rulers claimed they had entered Lebanon in 1976 to protect the Palestinian revolution and to protect Lebanon. What really happened was that they attempted to slay the Palestinian revolution — in fact, they massacred the Palestinian masses in Tal az-Za'tar. They placed Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution at the mercy of the U.S.-Zionist war machine. With humiliation, shame, and great ignominy, the Syrian leaders withdrew before the Zionist invaders. The Zionists issued their first ultimatum to the Syrian forces and opened the way for them so they could withdraw to Shtawrah and Al-Biqa'. The Damascus rulers remained, watching the aggression against the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon and agaisnt the Palestinian and Lebanese people as though it were of no concern to them. In fact, it did not concern them in the least.

Had they wanted to fight Israel, they should have done so when 220,000 Israeli soldiers were stationed in Lebanon and when the Soviet friends placed their military machine at their disposal. Had they wanted war, they would not have let the Zionists settle in southern Lebanon, overlooking Damascus. As for the Golan, it is a poor occupied plateau. It is now forgotten because the agent Syrian regime has dropped it from its calculations. It is no longer mentioned in the hypocritical Syrian media which call for liberating Lebanon. The Golan is foresaken and forgotten.

O Syrian regime, had you wanted the war, you would not have massed your forces and besieged the Palestinians and Lebanese people in northern Lebanon. Your would not have killed them and burned their houses and, at the same time, claimed that the fighting was among Palestinians. Had you wnated to fight Israel, you would not have revealed a war decision in such a flagrant manner. The October 1973 war was a war of surprise. It exploited the surprise element in fighting the Zionist enemy. To declare general mobilization and to call up the reservists in such an open manner means that Syria wants to frankly tell the Israelis and the Americans that fighting against them is out of the question and will never materialize and that what was intended was to draw world attention toward Damascus and divert attention from the massacres in Lebanon against the Palestinians and the Lebanese people.

The Syrian regime is under an illusion if it believes for a single moment that the war theatrical against Israel will be echoed or believed by anybody. It is similar to Al-Qadhdhafi's calls for the liberation of Palestine — calls that are implemented in Chad, in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps, and in Tripoli, northern Lebanon. The Syrian regime has staged many theatricals besides the call for general mobilization. We all recall the story of the Syrian missiles in Al-Biqa'. We do not want to dwell

on these missiles because they were swept away by the Zionist planes in a fraction of a second. The Damascus regime's media air with lies and falsehoods and claiming that they were meant to fight Israel.

Again we say: O Damascus rulers, O great fabricators of lies, O traders in people's blood, O experts in bargains: If you want to fight, why do you maintain the UN emergency forces at the forward lines in the Golan? If you want to fight, O pupils of Cohen [Isralei spy captured and executed in Syria] and professional criminas in Damascus, you should not remove the Palestinian fighters, the heroes of Beirut and Lebanon, from Al-Biqa' and besiege them in northern Lebanon. You should not pound the Palestinian camps and the Lebanese people in Tripoli. O Timur Lenk regime in Damascus, those who want to fight will not strike deals with Washington — deals that were blessed by Shultz many times. You did not fight Israel when it was fighting in Lebanon alone last year. Israel was facing the Palestinian and Lebanese heroes. How can you fight Israel now when the U.S. fleets are covering the eastern Mediteranean waters?

We challenge you. The Palestinian masses and the Arab nation dare you to fire one shot at the nearest Israeli position overlooking Damascus. By the way, this position is not more than 14 km from the Syrian capital.

U.S-Israeli Action Hinted

JN082045 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1647 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk presented within recorded dispatch by unidentified radio correspondent]

[Text] Hafiz al-Asad's regime has announced general mobilization and called up the reserves. This is indeed a significant development. The significance of this development, however, will neither exonerate the Damascus regime from its sins nor characterize it with patriotism. The lion — we mean Hafiz al-Asad — displayed his courage in Tal az-Za'tar, the city of Hamah, and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. In order to be fair to the man, we say that he displayed his courage only on the Lebanese and the Palestinians, who are supposed to be Syria's natural allies.

The lion, we mean Hafiz al-Asad, has mobilized his forces and is giving them frank, clear, and criminal orders to shell Palestinian civilians in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. Nothing can exonerate him from a crime of this magnitude. The lion, we mean Hafiz al-Asad, is sending his soldiers, tanks, and rocket launchers into a military campaign against the Palestinian revolution; he has been besieging northern Lebanon. No patriotic mask or makeup can hide the ugliness of this deed.

Accordingly, what is the significance of Damascus' announcement of general mobilization and calling up the reserves? We may note here that the United States and Israel might have hinted at accusing Syria of being connected with the blasts in the U.S. and French forces headquarters in Beirut and in Israeli headquarters in Tyre. However, both those who carried out the operations and the United States and Israel know very well that the Syria of Hafiz al-Asad is innocent of this nationalist charge.

One may also note that the United States and Israel threatened to avenge those who carried out these operations and hinted that their retaliatory measures may be aimed against Lebanese forces stationed in the southern suburb of Beirut, the mountain area, or other spots under Syrian forces' control. One may further note that the United States and Israel may indeed carry out such retaliatory measures either jointly or separately. U.S.-Israeli joint operations may take place in Lebanese areas under Syrian control. This did happen recently when Israeli warplanes twice strafed positions in areas under Syrian control, as well as Syrian positions; but Hafiz al-Asad's forces remained silent and did not fight back as they are doing now in Tripoli.

It could also be noted that U.S. papers are now talking about three U.S. aircraft carriers that will reach the Lebanese coast by next week and join the big U.S. fleet there. This massing of the U.S. fleet could be the tool for U.S. interference in Lebanon either with or without Israel's participation, particularly since there is increasing talk about the strategic cooperation between the two sides.

All the aforementioned facts would be good reasons for announcing a general mobilization and calling up the reserves in Syria had there been anyone in the Damascus regime really willing to confront and fight. Hafiz al-Asad's regime, however, has never meant to confront or fight. In earlier times, Damascus created a state of tension but eased it before things ended in confrontation. At one time, Israel crossed over into Beirut but Damascus remained silent. A second time, U.S. ships shelled the mountain area in Lebanon, but Damascus announced a cease-fire.

Hafiz al-Asad's regime does not seek a confrontation. Should a confrontation be imposed on him, he will face it with another cease-fire and another withdrawal, or this time with a larger deal. Al-Asad's war in Tripoli could be a part of this deal.

Hafiz al-Asad and the pillars of his regime do not think of the facts we have mentioned. This regime may not see any impending threat in all these developments, which we consider very dangerous. The main objective behind Damascus' announcement of the general mobilization could be an attempt to gain self-assurance about the internal situation in Syria, which has started to shake as a result of Al-Asad's crimes in Tripoli. This announcement of a general mobilization could be an attempt to exonerate himself or to find patriotic masks to cover his face.

'Alawites Urged To Move Against Al-Asad

JN082025 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1603 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Our great Palestinian masses, masses in Syria and Lebanon, masses of this nation: We have no choice but to fight in order to defend the revolution's rifle. We have to do this because the Zionist enemy, the sectarian regime in Damascus, and the swines

of Syrian intelligence, including treasonous and malicious dissidents such as Ahmad Jibril and Tariq al-Khadra, are now allied against the revolution's rifle.

Masses of the Arab nation and our kinfolk in Syria: Have you not heard what Brzezinski, Carter's adviser for national security, said yesterday? He said that if the PLO had accepted U.S. settlement plans, it would not find itself in the current disarray taking place in northern Lebanon. The disasrray Brzezinski referred to yesterday is what Hafiz al-Asad's regime is implementing against our revolution and legitimacy to force us to join the Syrian ruler's deals with the United States and Israel.

The plot is crystal clear. The 'Alawite sectarian ruler of Syria — who slaughtered the Hamah residents and our kinfolk in Tal az-Za'tar and massacred Nahr al-Barid's residents and destroyed their houses — can no longer hide his crime.

Our kinfolk in valiant Syria, sons of the 'Alawite sect, which is innocent of the killer Afiz al-Asad: Bear your historic responsibilities so history will not record that Hafiz al-Asad annihilated the Palestinians in northern Lebanon while the 'Alawites remained silent. Our kinfolk in valiant Syria, sons of the 'Alawites in Syria: We have always known you capable of facing the traitors, deviationists, and killers and capable of safeguarding Syria's Arab face so it may remain the edifice of Arabism that harbors no killers, traitors, or criminals who have murdered the kinfolk in Hamah, Tudmur, Tal az-Za'tar, and Nahr al-Barid.

As for you fighters of Palestine in Al-Baddawi and Tripoli, greetings to you, heroes of the revolution, dear ones and beloved sons of your nation and people, soldiers of God. The Almighty has promised to grant you victory so you may hoist the Palestinian banners high in the sky. You are defending your people's honor against those who sold the Golan and defamed its honor. They are now trying to disgrace Syria by killing the Palestinians and the Lebanese and destroying the camps in Tripoli, in northern Lebanon.

Soldiers of God in Al-Baddawi and Tripoli, you who are defending Palestine's honor against the killers, against the sectarian malicious regime in Damascus. You are worthy of heroism, faithfulness, and honor. You are the great ones repulsing the forces of Timur Lenk, who has resurrected in the shape of Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus. You are worthy of these people's love. You are worthy of ejoying God's victory over the isolationist, killer, and traitorous rulers in Damascus.

We will teach our children as well as the Syrian and Arab children how to take revenege on those kilers in retaliation for their crimes and treason against the Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese.

Contacts Under Way on Foreign Ministers Meeting

GF081312 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1110 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 8 Nov (WAKH) — It was learned from a well-informed source in Tunis today that contacts are currently being held on holding an extraordinary Arab foreign ministers conference in order to fix a new date for the next Arab summit. The source said that at the PLO's request intensive contacts have been held for the past 48 hours on holding an Arab foreign ministers conference to review the bloody incidents in northern Lebanon. The sources ruled out the possibility that the extraordinary Arab foreign ministers conference will be held next week, as the results of the efforts and contacts being made by the Arab League secretary general with the member countries and the important results of the Arab delegation's visit to Damascus must be seen first.

Islamic Summit To Be Held in Casablanca

LD071357 Kuwait KUNA in English 1204 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 7 (KUNA) — The Islamic Summit conference is scheduld to be held in Casablanca, Morocco, on January 16, informed sources said Monday. Several international issues are to be discussed in the conference including the Middle East cause, Jerusalem, the situation in Lebanon, as well as the Afghan issue.

Al-Fahum Receives British Official 8 November

JN081824 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum received at noon today Temple-Morris, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the British House of Commons. During the meeting, Al-Fahum briefed Morris on the current events in the region, particularly on the Palestinian problem. He also asserted that there is no choice for the Palestinian people but to secure the unity of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian masses.

Al-Fahum also stressed the importance and precedence of Syrian-Palestinian relations and the Syrian Arab role in supporting our Palestinian people's steadfastness. He pointed out that every Palestinian citizen is against the internecine fighting in the Palestinian arena and supports Syria's pan-Arab positions under President Hafiz al-Asad. He also stressed the need to abide by all the PNC resolutions because scuh a position will return the PLO to its normal situation.

Fatah's Nimr Salih Confers With PDRY Official

JN090653 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Nimr Salih, alias Abu Salih, Fatah Central Committee member, met in Damascus yesterday with 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, secretary of the YSP Central Committee and member of the Political Bureau in the PDRY. They discussed the Israeli and U.S. threats against Syria and reviewed the latest political developments in the Palestinian arena.

PLO Representative on Andreotti's Syria Trip

AU07 2002 Rome ANSA in English 1950 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] (ANSA)-Rome, November 7 — The Palestinian Liberation Organization's representative in Italy, Nimr Haddad, viewed positively Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti's mission to Damascus. Haddad told ANSA today that he was certain that Andreotti, as a democratically-minded man who has always supported the Palestinians, had told the Syrians what they "deserve to (?hear)". However, he warned that West Europe as a whole must take the necessary political steps, not only to keep Syria from massacring the Palestinians in Tripoli, but [words indistinct] entire negotiations on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. If the Europeans do not move now, he said, they will bear enormous responsibility for what might happen in Tripoli, and as a result, what happens throughout the Middle East.

With regard to the situation on northern Lebanon, Haddad said it was clear that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad planned to occupy Tripoli which meant if nothing was done to stop it, a massacre of Palestinians even worse than that in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, and at Tal az-Za'tar.

The forces loyal to 'Arafat would fight to the bitter end, he continued. "We have sacrificed all these years so that the Palestinian people could decide their fate independently: We will never surrender to the fascist Syrian regime", he said.

He said the fighting in Tripoli was not between Palestinians because the forces led by Palestinian dissident Abu Musa were only a cover for the Syrians. It is a fight between a people democratically represented, by the PLO of 'Arafat, and the fascist regime of Al-Asad, isolated within his own country, according to Haddad. He thought that if the seige of Tripoli went on for any length of time, rebellion would probably begin within the Syrian Army against Al-Asad's policy.

The PLO spokesman told the Italian radio that 'Arafat's August 1982 decision to abandon Beirut might have been a political error that Syrians took advantage of. [passage indistinct]

Zayid Discusses Mediation Efforts, Talks

WA0815Z8 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 22-28 Oct 83 p 12

[Text] Very knowledgeable sources have disclosed to *AL-MAJALLAH* the details of the talks which Shaykh Zayid ibn Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, held with President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus and of the continuing secret contacts to achieve a kind of compromise between Syria and Iraq. The sources said that Shaykh Zayid, who arrived in Damascus from Baghdad where he had met with President Saddam Husayn, emphasized in his talk with President al-Asad the necessity of opening a new page in Syrian-Iraqi relations and requested that he reopen the Kirkuk-Baniyas oil pipeline, making it possible for Iraq to resume exporting its oil to the Mediterranean through it. Shaykh Zayid promised the Syrian president Arab financial aid in exchange for this. The sources averred to *AL-MAJALLAH* that Al-Asad indicated that reopening this pipeline would represent a sizeable change in Syria's alliances in the region. Diplomatic sources in Damascus also said that Al-Asad had privately initimated that Syria may shift some of its alliances and review the subject of the pipeline closure with Iraq if the Arab states will support the idea of electing a new head of the PLO to replace Yasir 'Arafat. However, Syrian sources have refused to affirm this. It is certain that the subject of Syrian-Palestinian relations was brought up during the talks. Shaykh Zayid proposed holding a meeting between Al-Asad and 'Arafat, but the Syrian president rejected such a meeting until 'Arafat straightens out the internal Palestinian situation. Al-Asad said that a number of PLO leaders had requested reforms and changes within the organization, and that it was up to 'Arafat to open a dialogue with his adversaries to agree on a settlement of the Palestinian situation. Al-Asad stated that Syria is ready to aid in finding settlement if 'Arafat will speak directly with his opponents.

After Damascus, Shaykh Zayid traveled to Algiers where he met with President Chadli Bendjedid and requested that he work to convince Al-Asad to reopen the oil pipeline with Iraq. Bendjedid sent a special envoy to Damascus, but the Syrian president did not alter his position. Qatari Foreign Minister Samih ibn Hamad Al Thani, who made unannounced shuttle trips between Damascus and Baghdad, participated in this mediation effort.

OPEC Ministers To Discuss Long-Term Strategy

LD080921 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0829 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 8 Nov (KUNA) — High-level sources have announced that oil ministers of six OPEC countries are to hold an important meeting in London on 15 November within the framework of "the long-term strategy committee" of the organization. Official sources today told KUNA that the strategy committee is to hold "an important" meeting chaired by Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani with the participation of the oil ministers of Kuwait, Algeria, Iran, Iraq, and Venezuela "to consider a study of future operations according to a unified, programed pricing system through forming a long-term strategy for OPEC's pricing and output."

GCC Summit Winds Up Activities in Qatar

Third Working Session Ends

GF081820 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Their majesties and highnesses, the leaders of the GCC countries, ended their third working session at the Doha Sheraton a short time ago under the chairmanship of his highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani. The session was restricted to their majesties and highnesses the GCC leaders; His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; the UAE, Bahraini, Suadi and Omani foreign ministers; and 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general.

In this session, the GCC leaders reviewed the topics of the agenda of the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council, which includes a number of political, military, and economic issues.

Their majesties and highnesses then left to attend the dinner banquet which his highness the amir has prepared for them at his palace in Ar-Rayyan.

Qatari Spokesman Quoted

GF082003 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Doha, 8 Nov (WAKH) — 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, Qatari information minister and official spokesman of the fourth summit conference of the GCC countries, has said that the work of the conference is proceeding satisfactorily and that the customary spirit of fraternity and complete understanding of all the points discussed prevails among their majesties and highnesses.

Regarding the GCC secretary general's report on the fourth Supreme Council summit conference, he said: With regard to the political issues, the report dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war and reviewed the contacts the Islamic Conference Organization, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and some Arab countries have made and also the mediation efforts the GCC countries have made with Tehran and Baghdad. The report affirmed the need to put an end to this devastating war through peaceful means because its continuation does not coincide with the region's stability and security.

On the current Arab situation, the report reviewed the good offices efforts which have been made between Baghdad and Damascus and Rabat and Algiers and between the conflicting parties in the region. The report emphasized the need to continue such efforts to replace estrangement and confrontation with dialogue. Al-Kuwari added that the report reviewed the measures taken regarding the reconstruction of the areas destroyed by the earthquake in the YAR, (?including) previous measures taken by the development funds of the member countries. The report also outlined the outcome of the study which was prepared on the feasibility of financing development projects in the PDRY. Regarding security issues, Al-Kuwari said the report reviewed aspects of military security coordination among the GCC countries.

On the economic level, the report reviewed the measures which have been implemented within the joint economic agreement since 1 March 1983, which dealt with equal treatment of GCC citizens in carrying out economic activities in industry, agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and contracting, and which allow GCC citizens involved in such professions as medicine, law, accounting, engineering, administration, economics, technology, agriculture, and fishing to practice their professions.

Al-Kuwari said the Ministerial Council presented to the Supreme Council recommendations calling for expanding activities allowed for GCC citizens to include the maintenance, hotel, restaurant, and pharmacy professions and all craftsmen and to implement this as of March 1984.

The report also presented another recommendation to unify all utility charges like water, power, communications, and prices of oil products and gas for the GCC countries in accordance with a timetable to be put forward by the financial and economic committee formed from the finance and economy ministers.

The report also reviewed the measures which the GCC countries have begun to take in implementation of the agreement to set up the gulf investment establishment. The first meeting of its board of directors will be held on 26 November. The report noted the studies that are being prepared by the general secretariat upon a request from the GCC states.

These studies include: 1) A study to locate the areas of strategic food reserves; 2) Formulating a joint agricultural policy among the GCC states on the basis of self-development, increasing production, and encouraging joint projects with private sector contribution; 3) A comprehensive plan for animal breeding; 4) A study aimed at defining the economic feasibility of establishing an exporting refinary in the Sultanate of Oman; 5) A study on the possibility of establishing a network of gas pipelines. The network will link the gas fields of the member states with the consumption centers of industrial establishments in the rest of the countries; 6) A feasibility study on establishing an oil pipeline across the GCC member states that will terminate at the Omani coast overlooking the Gulf of Oman; 7) A study on providing a strategic view of economic development in the GCC states until the year 2000; 8) A study of the possibility of establishing a company for coastal transport among the main ports; 9) A feasibility study on establishing a railroad to link the GCC states.

Al-Hasan Meets Qatari Amir

GF080858 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 8 Nov (WAKH) — Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan met this morning in Doha with the amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, and apprised him of the latest developments of the Palestinian issue.

It was learned that Khalid al-Hasan will remain in Doha to hold further consultations with the GCC leaders who are currently holding meetings of the fourth conference of the GCC Supreme Council, which opened in Doha yesterday.

Mediation Delegation Returns

GF090807 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, returned to Doha from Damascus at dawn today after holding intensive contacts with high-ranking Syrian officials and a number of Palestinian revolution leaders there. Following the two foreign affairs ministers' meeting with President al-Asad last night, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad stated that in accordance with the decision of the GCC leaders, he — along with his brother minister of state for foreign affairs and in the presence of a Tunis representative and an Arab League envoy — made an initiative aimed at ending the fighting between the Palestinian brothers. He added that a meeting was held for this purpose with all the leaderships of the factions of the Palestinian revolution present in the Syrian capital, during which an explanation was given on the interest of the GCC leaders and peoples in the course of the painful events taking place in the Palestinian arena and the necessity to putting a final and urgent end to them. In a statement to the QNA correspondent, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister noted that during this meeting they also heard the proposed views which affirmed the necessity of ending the fighting between the brothers in arms, maintaining the unity of the organization, and uniting its capabilities against the common enemy. He declared that an initial agreement was achieved on an immediate cease-fire, the execution of which will be announced after the completion of consultations with the sides with which contacts are currently being made.

He stated that he and his brother Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani were given the opportunity to meet His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. They informed him of the interest of the GCC leaders in what is taking place between the Palestinian brothers and the necessity of uniting all Arab efforts to end the Palestinian bloodshed. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad stated that President al-Asad, in turn, affirmed the great interest of his country in the events taking place in the Palestinian arena and said he shares the idea of his brothers, the GCC leaders, in the necessity of achieving a formula by the Palestinian brothers to maintain their unity and realize the hopes of the Arabs. He added that on this occasion President al-Asad conveyed to the GCC delegation his sincere greetings to the GCC leaders and wishes for the success of their conference.

The delegation met with President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday in the presence of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian foreign minister; Muhammad Sa'd al-Faraj, Qatari ambassador [to Syria]; and 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Kandari, Kuwaiti ambassador in Damascus. The talks during the meeting dealt with the situation in the region and events in northern Lebanon. Earlier the GCC delegation met at the Kuwaiti ambassador's residence with Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the PNC, and PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Talal Naji, Muhammad Khalifah, Yasir 'Abd Rabuh, 'Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, Ahmad Yamani, and Ahmad Zurdi an-Nashashibi. Discussion at this meeting centered on the possibility of ending the fighting between the Palestinian brothers in arms.

Spokesman's Press Conference

GF081605 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The GCC Supreme Council ended its second closed meeting at 1400 today. The meeting began at noon at the Doha Sheraton under the chairmanship of his highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani.

'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information and official spokesman for the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council, held a press conference at the Gulf Hotel this evening. At the outset of the conference, his excellency made a statement reviewing the most important issues tackled during the first and second meeatings of the council's fourth session. He said: The meetings are proceeding well and are dominated by the customary fraternal spirit and total understanding among their majesties and highnesses on all proposed topics. They are motivated in this by their sense of responsibility toward the Arab and Islamic nations' causes to attain the goals required by this meeting and to fulfill the nation's aspirations and good will.

His excellency added: Their majesties and highnesses, the kings, amirs, and presidents, discussed in their session yesterday evening a detailed and comprehensive report by the GCC secretary general. In their meeting this morning they discussed the current Arab situation. In this regard, they discussed the task of the delegation — which went to Damascus in response to the contacts which have been held with some fraternal Arab countries — to make efforts to stop the fighting between Palestinian brothers. The information minister continued: The aim in sending the delegation is to work to stop fighting and reach a settelement for the disputes between the Palestinians, which benefit only the Zionist enemy. He added: This morning their majesties and highnesses ended their discussion of political issues.

In reply to a question on whether the delegation will hold consultations with Palestinian parties or Syria, the information minister and spokesman for the session said: The delegation will talk with the conflicting Palestinian parties, with the assistance of Syrian brothers, because Syria is part of the Arab nation and is concerned with Arab causes. We call for the assistance of the brothers in Syria to exert efforts to stop this fighting. I am confident that it is in the hands of the Palestinian brothers to stop this fighting.

The information minister also reviewed the GCC secretary general's report submitted to the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council.

Foreign Ministers' Meeting

GF090904 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 9 Nov (WAKH) — The GCC foreign ministers convened in Doha this morning. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, presented a report on the results of the mission they carried out in Damascus yesterday as assigned by the

council to end the fighting between the Palestinian brothers. It is worth mentioning that the visit by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani contributed to an agreement in principle on a cease-fire between the Palestinian brothers.

3d Working Session Ends

LD081856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1824 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 8 Nov (SPA) — The GCC leaders have concluded their third working session at the conference hall of the Sheraton Hotel (Doha). The Gulf leaders are scheduled to hold their final session tomorrow morning at the conclusion of meetings of the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council to complete discussion of the topics connected with the council and the developments of the situation on the Arab arena, and particularly the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas and the Iraq-Iran war.

Qatari Amir's Address

GF091302 Doha Television Service in Arabic 1440 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Speech delivered by Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani at final session of fourth GCC summit conference in Doha on 9 November — live]

[Text] Dear brothers, your majesties and highnesses, your excellencies, gentlemen: It pleases me, at this final meeting of the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council, to reiterate my gratitude and thanks for the honor you bestowed upon us by convening this session in your second home, Qatar, whose people harbor for you and for your fraternal peoples the most profound affection and appreciation. We express to you our pleasure that you have held your meeting on this historical occasion among your kin.

Dear brothers, during our previous sessions we succeeded in adopting steps through which we made big positive strides in support of cooperation among us and in accomplishment of what should gather our energies and coordinate our resources in all fields in order to reach our integrity. This is considered the perfect means to achieve the hopes of our peoples in progressing and prospering in the shade of security and stability and in bolstering their abilities to perform their duties toward our Arab and Islamic nations.

During this session, with the help of God, we have been able to add more constructive and important measures, by virtue of which we bolstered our solidarity with the aim of taking our states forward through well-studied steps toward more development and progress. On the questions of our region and the questions of our Arab and Islamic nations, we have adopted stands that conform with the effective role we are determined to make the GCC play at all Gulf, Arab, Islamic, and international levels.

I am firmly confident that the support of the region's peoples for the GCC — which with its establishments has achieved the dearest of hopes — as well as our determination to continue our collective march toward the achievement of our aspired integrity will continue to be the best guarantee that this integrity will, in its best form, develop from an aspiration into a reality. It also pleases me to praise the spirit of intimate brotherhood and absolute cooperation that you were anxious to see dominate our discussions. This, in addition to your great efforts, contributed to the important results reached during this session.

I call upon God to make our efforts successful, bless our steps, and guide our good march in the cause of achieving our noble goals. He is most hearing. May the peace of God, His mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Final Statement Issued

GF091319 Doha Television Service in Arabic 1148 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Final statement of fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council held in Doha 7-9 November 1983 — read by GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The final statement of the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council held in Doha, State of Qatar, 3-5 Safar 1404 Hegira, corresponding to 7-9 November 1983:

At the request of His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, the fourth session of the Supreme GCC Council was held in Doha 3-5 Safar 1404 Hegira, corresponding to 7-9 November 1983, in the presence of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE; His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the Sate of Bahrain; His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Suaid Arabia; His Majesty Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar; and Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the amir of the State of Kuwait.

During this session the GCC Supreme Council reviewed the political and economic ties and coordination in defense affairs among GCC member countries. The GCC Supreme Council also reviewed the political situation in the Gulf area in light of current events.

On reviewing the ties among GCC countries, the Supreme Council expressed satisfaction with the level of cooperation attained by the GCC member countries in implementation of the principles of the GCC statutes. The Supreme Council noted that the steps that have been made to achieve political coordination and regular consultations to adopt unified stands on the international level have strengthened the GCC and consolidated the ties among the GCC countries.

On reviewing the situation in the region, the GCC Supreme Council discussed the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and its effect on the region's stability. The Supreme Council expressed hope that the two countries will agree on ending the war between them in order to end the shedding of the blood of the two Muslim countries and the depletion of the resources of the two neighboring countries and so that they can harness their

efforts to confront the enemies of our Arab and Muslim nation. The GCC Supreme Council expressed its support for the UN Security Council resolution of 31 October 1983 which calls for an end to all military activities in the Gulf and for refraining from attacking cities, economic installations, and ports and for an immediate end to all hostilities in the Gulf area, including all sea routes and waterways. The GCC Supreme Council noted with satisfaction Iraq's agreement to the security Council resolution. It calls on Iran to respond positively to this resolution and not to threaten the freedom of navigation in the Gulf and its straits in view of the international importance of such straits and in accordance with international agreements that govern shipping in the straits.

The GCC Supreme Council Calls on the UN Security Council, and the permanent members of the Security Council in particular, to shoulder their responsibilities in taking the necessary measures to implement the resolution. The GCC Supreme Council reiterates its readiness to resume the endeavors carried out by the State of Kuwait and the UAE on behalf of the GCC countries.

Out of its concern to end the shedding of Arab blood, the Supreme Council sent Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign and information minister, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, to the Syrian Arab Republic in an Arab endeavor — in cooperation with Syria and Algeria and the representative of the Arab League — and within the framework of the intensive endeavors and efforts to end the current regrettable fighting on the Palestinian arena so as to heal the rift and stand united behind the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Supreme Council hopes that all the parties will observe the cease-fire as agreed.

The Supreme Council emphasized its support for the PLO's unity and cohesion and for resolving all differences through constitutional and legal channels. The GCC Supreme Council expressed the belief that there can be no peace in the Middle East unless the Palestinian people, under the leadership of their organization, are able to obtain their inalienable national rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and to establish an independent state on their national homeland.

The GCC Supreme Council heard a detailed report from Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign and information minister, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, on their meetings in Damascus and on what was achieved. The GCC Supreme Council hopes that what was agreed upon will be implemented.

The GCC Supreme Council also emphasized its support for Lebanon and for safeguarding Lebanon's safety, sovereignty, stability, and territorial integrity. The Supreme Council expressed its support for the National Reconciliation Conference in Geneva and expressed the hope that it will achieve the results to which the Lebanese people aspire.

The GCC Supreme Council also discussed the development in the relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY. The GCC Supreme Council lauds the positive development represented by the declaration on the exchange of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The GCC Supreme Council reviewed the progress of military coordination among GCC countries in implementation of the resolutions adopted at its third session held in the State of Bahrain in November 1982 — resolutions aimed at building the strength of the GCC member countries and coordinating among them so that the GCC countries will be able to rely on themselves in defending their security and safeguarding their stability. The Supreme Council expressed its satisfaction with what has been achieved in this regard. The Supreme Council also viewed with satisfaction the Peninsula Shield exercises held in the UAE and the results and significance of these exercises, which reflect the determination of the citizens of the region to defend it and consolidate its independence, and also reflect the cohesion among the citizens of the area and their readiness to shoulder their responsibilities in safeguarding stability and security.

The GCC Supreme Council reviewed the progress in the implementation of the unified economic agreement and decided to expand the scope of economic activities which citizens of their countries are allowed to carry out in other GCC member countries as of 1 March 1984. The Supreme Council also adopted decisions on completing the measures for the establishment of the Gulf Investment Foundation [mu'assasat al-khalij lil-istithmar], which will begin its work at the end of November 1983.

The GCC Supreme Council expressed its gratitude and appreciation to Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of the State of Qatar, and to his goverment for the generous hospitality and warm welcome accorded to the leaders and members of the delegations taking part in the conference — which had a good effect in bringing about the success of this brotherly conference — and wish His Highness good health and happiness and the Qatari people continued prosperity, progress, and affluence.

In response to the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the amir of the State of Kuwait, the GCC Supreme Council decided to hold its fifth session in the State of Kuwait in November 1984.

Issued in the State of Qatar on 5 Safar 1404 Hegira, 9 November 1983

Thank you. [applause]

KUWAIT

French Air Defense Equipment Purchased

PM090909 Paris LE MONDE in French 5 Nov 83 p 10

[Unattributed report: "Kuwait Buys Air Defense Radar From France"]

[Text] Kuwait is buying air defense equipment (radar infrastructures) made by the Thomson-C.S.F. Company from France worth a total of Fr1.2 billion.

According to an industrial source, this contract is one of the biggest recorded since the beginning of 1983. It relates to a series of radar stations, distributed among several places in Kuwaiti territory, and a command post centralizing the information received and the commands issued.

Kuwait has already bought 32 Mirage F-1 interceptors from France and, with the contract signed by Thomson-C.S.F.,that country's entire air cover, active equipment (aircraft armed with air-to-air missiles), and passive equipment (surveillance radar) are entrusted to French manufacturers.

Assembly Calls For Suspension of Aid to Syria

LD081738 Kuwait KUNA in English 1707 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 8 (KUNA) — The National Assembly approved a proposal calling on the government to suspend its financial aid to Syria in today's meeting which focussed on the inter-Palestinian fighting in Northern Lebanon. The proposal by five members is not binding to the government. It covers the unpaid instalments for 1983 and some KD 82 millions (equivalent to about 260 million dollars) in 1984. Some deputies also called on the government to break diplomatic relations with Syria, Libya and Iran.

The assembly unanimously called on the warring Palestinian factions to stop clashes and resort to reason and stressed the need for an intervention by Arab leaders to stop the inter-Palestinian bloodshedding. Some deputies noted that events in north Lebanon are part of an American plot against the Palestinians that involves some Arab governments.

The assembly issued a statement deploring the fighting and called on the belligerents to come to the negotiating table and denounced those who interfere in Palestinian affairs. The staement called on the Arabs and Palestinians in particular to use their rifles against the Israeli enemy.

The assembly voted 28-18, with one abstention, against a draft-law to lift parliamentary immunity from depvuty Jasir Khalid al-Jasir. Some deputies argued that it would be a serious precedent if the assembly approved the bill.

PDRY

Chairman Addresses Soviet Embassy Reception

GF081450 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended a reception held by the USSR Embassy in Aden yesterday evening on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The secretary general extended his greetings to the Soviet ambassador and Soviet leadership on this occasion, which is very dear to all progressives in the world. He pointed out the historic significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which started the era of the socialist revolution and national liberation movements against the international imperialist regime and in order to construct a new world free of oppression, wars, and (?incidents).

The secretary general saluted the great and leading contributions made by the October Socialist Revolution in supporting and strengthening the struggle which progressive mankind is waging for freedom, socialism, and peace in the world. He lauded particularly the role of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the Soviet Union in supporting the struggle of the Yemeni people and our Arab peoples against the imperialist powers, colonialists, and Zionists and for liberation and [word indistinct] progress. He also expressed his satisfaction with the level of the friendship and cooperation relations between the two friendly parties and countries, which develop and are bolstered daily on the basis of joint goals and principles under the guidance of scientific socialism and international poletariarism.

YSP Secretary Returns From Visit to Syria

GF081918 Aden ANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Aden, 8 Nov (ANA) — 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd a-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, returned Aden from Syria this evening after delivering a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Syrian president, on recent Arab and Palestinian developments.

In a statement to ANA, 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, said: "The Syrian leadership showed understanding of our point of view." He added: "We feel that great efforts are being exerted to contain this problem."

CSSR Economic Delegation Arrives 8 November

GF081920 Aden ANA in Arabic 1650 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Aden, 8 Nov (ANA) — The CSSR side in the joint CSSR- Yemeni economic committee, led by Comrade Jaroslav Jakubec, deputy CSSR foreign trade minister, arrived in Aden today to attend the third session of the joint economic committee which will begin its meetings at the Planning Ministry building tomorrow morning.

In a statement, Comrade Jaroslav expressed his satisfaction at the development of the economic relations between the two countries. He pointed out that an agreement will be signed to establish a health center as a present from the CSSR Government. The health center will be a symbol of friendship linking the two friendly peoples and countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd on GCC Role, Security, Other Topics

GF081410 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Nov 83 pp 20, 21

[Interview with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz by *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Chief Editor Hamad Jasim as-Sa'id — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, nearly 3 years after the GCC's establishment, and in view of the political and economic achievements accomplished ever since, how do you view the future of the GCC's role in this region?

[Fahd] The GCC is the culmination of long efforts and successive steps of coordination and cooperation among fraternal Arab countries which are homogenous in traditions, norms, and common interests. It is in my view a framework for achieving Gulf unity in various fields and a result of understanding, cohesion, and joint action. We have been able to make great accomplishments in various spheres. Through the GCC's role, I believe that the future of this region will be, God willing, more plentiful for the general good of our peoples and our Arab and Islamic nations.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty believes, with other GCC leaders, that the Gulf region's security is the responsibility of its sons. However, some try to make this devoid of meaning and shake it by threatening to close the waterways, thereby making a plea for the superpowers to interfere. What is Your Majesty's view?

[Fahd] Threats are regrettable and we do not want any party to contemplate closing the Strait of Hormuz because this would harm all. This might open doors wide for foreign intervention and drag the region into international conflict. The region's peoples do not need that.

[As-Sa'id] The West believes that balance of forces has been moving against its favor during the past years and that it should adjust this balance — as we see in the Western military presence in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean.

[Fahd] relations between the world superpowers are governed by many considerations and each is trying in one way or another to preserve its influence and interests. To avoid our peoples being involved in the international conflict and to preserve our countries' independence and sovereignty, we always call for staying out of the areas of influence of the foreign powers, be they Eastern or Western.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, some say that the Kingdom can do much to effect a change in the U.S. stand toward Arab causes, but that it does not want to do so. Is this true?

[Fahd] The Kingdom spares no efforts in working for the supreme Arab interest. It devotes all its efforts in relations with the United States, Western European countries, and others to explaining the Arab point of view and affirming our sincere desire for a durable and just peace. I believe circumstances have begun to change to a certain extent and that our view has begun to be conveyed in a better way through most of the available channels. Dealing with the United States in particular requires more understanding of the reality of political circumstances. There are encouraging signs indeed, and the core for us is that the Israeli forces must be withdrawn from Lebanon and a state set up for the Palestinians, with Jerusalem as its capital. We hope the United States will understand this and will work to ijplement it. We do not claim that we can achieve all that we need for the Arab nation's interests — he who claims this is ignorant — but we should exert all efforts we can.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, what can be said about relations between the Kingdom and the Soviet Union, particularly since Your Majesty and the Soviet leaders exchange congratulatory cables on national days and Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Moscow within the Arab seven-member committee was an indication of establishing some kind of relations between the two countries?

[Fahd] The Kingdom's foreign policy is tied only to the Arab interest and the Islamic nation. What determines its relations with other countries is the common interest which does not harm its principles or the Arab nation's goals. The Kingdom deals with the current international reality, and the Soviet Union is one of the world's two superpowers.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, in the game of balance of military forces, Israeli strategists call the Saudi Army the new worker in the region's force. How do you view this?

[Fahd] Every country has the right to build a strong army able to safeguard its security and peace. The Kingdom, out of its Arab and Islamic responsibilities, must do all it can to shoulder these responsibilities.

[As-Sa'id] The Soviet Union denies having any intention to interfere in Gulf affairs and this contradicts the West's assumptions. This makes the region open as an area of conflict in light of the concentration of fleets and forces.

[Fahd] We are concerned about the region's independence and reject all foreign interference or influence. We also do not want the region to turn into a pivot point for international polarization or conflict in any way whatsoever.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, reports said the committee to clear up Arab atmosphere will meet in the Kingdom shortly. Has a date been set and what are your hopes for these meetings?

[Fahd] The committee to clear the Arab atmosphere, which includes Saudi Arabia and Algeria, has put forth certain measures to govern bilateral relations among Arab countries. The committee's task is part of the continuing multi-Arab efforts to create the most favorable atmosphere for the strong Arab solidarity that our country needs to face the various challenges.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, do you believe it is possible for Egypt to return to the Arab fold in the next summit conference?

[Fahd] Egypt's return to the Arab nation is very important. As is known, resolutions were adopted by Arab leaders at the Baghdad conference. Therefore, the final decision rests with the Arab leaders who adopted this decision.

[As-Sa'id] Are the GCC countries thinking of setting up a joint military industry, particularly in view of the successful maneuvers held recently by the region's countries?

[Fahd] Strengthening the GCC countries' forces and coordination among them is normal and within the framework of projects such as military industrialization and the consequent studies and preparations, which should be based on sound and objective foundations.

[As-Sa'id] Your Majesty, the Kingdom's role in Arab action reaches beyond Arab limits through its political and economic relations with West European countries. How do you view the European stand on Arab causes and on the Palestinian cause in particular?

[Fahd] The Kingdom spares no effort to discuss all that is good for the Arab nation and its interests. I believe the Europeans can take a more active on establishing a just and durable settlement in the Middle East by coordinating with the United States. The European role can be more effective in working to stop the current Iranian-Iraqi war by not viewing this war through its interests only. Western Europe can also play a role in pressuring Israel into withdrawing from Lebanon and keeping Lebanon free from international conflict.

[As-Sa'id] The GCC countries, and mainly Saudi Arabia, are trying to diversify their sources of weapons. They are also trying to unify their defense systems and achievements through the GCC. However, these moves, together with the Peninsula Shield maneuvers, have been viewed as a show of strength and a threat to others. What is Your Majesty's view?

[Fahd] It is clear to all that the maneuvers were not tied to any particular events. Rather, they are part of a firm and long-standing policy of the GCC to safeguard the Gulf's stability and prevent foreign interference. The success of the Peninsula Shield maneuvers is to enhance the defense capabilities and has nothing to do with the events going on in the Gulf.

[As-Sa'id] Observers assert that you won the round with the FRG after Chancellor Kohl was convinced of Saudi Arabia's correct view in its request for the tanks deal and that the Kingdom is about to receive its requirements of German arms. Are there any other plans to follow this move?

[Fahd] I believe that the chancellor's talks in the Kingdom and his acquaintance with our view on events in the region uncovered many angles of the stand and the urgent need for a durable and just settlement to the Middle East conflict and the need for respecting the Lebanese people's will to regain their country's unity and to safeguard its sovereignty and independence. No doubt cooperation between the Kingdom and the FRG is expanding to embrace various spheres.

Yamani on Economic Diversification, OPEC Issues

LD051208 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (SPA) — Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ahmad Zaki Yamani stressed that one of the most important strategic bases of the forthcoming 5-Year Plan of the kingdom is the diversification of sources of income and reduction of dependence on petroleum. The minister, in an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-MAJALIS*, published in *AL-JAZIRAH*, said that there are areas in which to achieve this target — industry, metallurgy, and agriculture.

Regarding industry, it is known that the Kingdom has really made progress in this sphere. Two industrial towns, Al-Jubayl and Yanbu', have been built for heavy industry, in addition to the medium and light industries which have spread by the hundreds throughout the Kingdom, not to mention the export refineries in Al-Jubayl, Yanbu', and Raghib on the Red Sea.

The minister emphasized the field of metallurgy. He pointed out the existence of huge mineral resources in the Kingdom, some of which could be exploited now while the economic usefulness of others is being assessed. He said: For years we have been carrying out mineral explorations and shortly we will begin exploitation operations, with the expectation that in the future the Kingdom will become one of the major exporters of minerals. As for the kinds of minerals discovered and their economic usefulness compared with oil, the minister said that there is copious mineral wealth in the Kingdom. There is gold, which we could use immediately, and there is copper, which has been discovered in various regions. Last week it became apparent that we can set up a refinery "smelter," which means there are huge quantities of copper in the Kingdom. The minister added that there are extensive deposits of iron in the Kingdom, in the north and in other regions. Studies are in the final stages for the manufacture of steel ingots from this iron which will be exported to various areas of the world. We also have phosphate and rare metals and the bauxite which is important in the production of aluminium.

He said that uranium and other radioactive materials which are of great value have been discovered, in addition to zinc, silver, flouride, and magnesium. All these are available in commercial quantities and currently studies are being made to determine their extente and the possibility of producing them commercially.

The minister also stressed the existence of a large number of qualified Saudi cadres for all stages of the oil industry. In the interview Yamani mentioned the joint oil project within the Gulf Cooperation Council, saying that at present a study of a number of joint projects is taking place in the council. They include laying a gas pipeline from Qatar, where gas is found in huge quantities, to some Gulf states which could use and buy this gas at world prices. In addition there is a project in Oman to build an oil refinery and another to lay a pipeline to export oil through Oman into an area away from the Strait of Hormuz. The minister added: At present the possibility of building a joint refinery for heavy oils and the refining of fuel in Bahrain — a cooperative venture of the Kingdom, Kuwait, and Bahrain — is being studied.

The minister spoke about the current oil setback. He said that this was due to high prices, a mistake committed by OPEC. Hence we must correct this mistake by stopping the price increases until demand for oil picks up, so that the producing countries will be able to cover their needs.

In the present situation every OPEC country is suffering from the need to increase their level of production, but we cannot increase this production unless the demand for oil increases and the level of consumption rises. Thus, to maintain prices as they are for 2 or 3 years will lead to the revival of world demand, and subsequently the OPEC countries could once again increase their output.

The minister explained that the political power of petroleum has shrunk due to the drop in demand for it. If the demand is increased once again as a result of freezing the present prices — and this is what will happen — then a great political gain will have been achieved by the Arab nation and in this event petroleum will regain its power and domination over the markets.

As for the nonadherence of some oil-producting countries to OPEC resolutions, the minister said that in the past some of the countries sold their oil at reduced prices and increased their production.

However, after the OPEC conference in London last March, these countries stopped giving discounts and to a large extent followed their allocated production quota — although in the past 2 months some of them have resorted to selling, at the official prices, quantities of oil which exceed the limit.

On the matter of OPEC's targets, Yamani said that the organization has made a great deal of progress toward realizing its goals in a petroleum economic community among the member states. They have set up many projects, some of which, regretfully, are suffering economic difficulties, such as the tanker projects. These problems only reflect the state of world market, however. As for the other projects involving training, petroleum services, petroleum engineering studies, petroleum investments, and shipping and dry dock repairs, these have been successful. He pointed out that the organization's potential for setting up numerous other projects is great in view of the economic usefulness of these projects.

YAR

Al-Qadhdhafi Asked To Intervene in Fighting

GF081958 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] San'a', 8 Nov (WAKH) — YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih made telephone calls today to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. President Salih asked Col al-Qadhdhafi to quickly intervene to stop the fighting in Tripoli. He also discussed with Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad the overall developments on the Arab arena, particularly the massacres the Palestinian revolution is facing in Tripoli, and the need to coordinate to stop fighting out of their conviction that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Sudan's Numayri, Delegation Visit Cairo 8 Nov

Welcomed by Mubarak

NC080953 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met this morning with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, who stopped over in Cairo en route to some European states and the United States. This meeting comes within the framework of the continuous consultations between the two presidents, particularly at the critical stage in which the PLO finds itself and because of the dangers which threaten the region and because of the call for the unity of all Arab efforts. President Numayri and his wife arrived at Cairo airport at 0945 today. They were welcomed by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his wife. President Numayri is accompanied by Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak and a large delegation including senior Sudanese Government officials. After the Sudanese president's arrival and after shaking hands with his well-wishers, the two presidents and their delegations left for President Mubarak's VIP lounge at Cairo airport where discussions are being held between the two sides. The session will be followed by a press conference.

Mubarak- Numayri News Conference

NC081200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1047 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has declared that the evacuation of the Palestinians from Lebanon without finding a solution to the question of their return to their land means the full liquidation of the Palestinian question. During a new conference he held after his 1 and 1/2 hour discussion with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, President Mubarak denied that an Egyptian ship carrying arms has sailed to the Lebanese shores. The president said this report is absolutely untrue. President Mubarak said: Concerning the political support, we will exert utmost efforts with the brothers in the Arab and non-Arab states to stop this bloodshed, which we believe will ultimately destroy the entire Palestinian question. President Mubarak stressed that Egypt has not changed its stance on Lebanon since the start of the Israeli invasion.

Commenting on Egypt's winning of a seat at the Security Council, President Numayri said: Egypt is an influential base and a main force in the world. Egypt has leading elements in the Arab and African regions and in the Islamic world. Egypt's winning of this seat was not a surprise and Egypt was elected on the basis of efficiency and merit. President Numayri denounced Libya's scattered attempts at sabotage in Sudan, the Philippines, Ireland, Grenada, Lebanon, and some African states.

Regarding the objectives of his tour to some European states and the United States, President Numayri emphasized that the main objective of the tour is to strengthen relations between Sudan and these states and to hold consultations on some international and regional problems of concern to Sudan.

The following is the text of the news conference. Here is the text of the statement President Mubarak delivered at the beginning of the conference:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It has been our custom to hold frequent and continuous meetings with Brother President Ja'far Numayri during the various visits or the stopovers during trips abroad. We absolutely do not consider the trips between Egypt and Sudan as external trips. Movement in the Nile valley is considered an internal movement. We have become accustomed to meeting and exchanging views and stands on bilateral issues and problems, as well as on existing issues in the Arab region. I am happy about the meeting with his excellency the president and I wish him continuous success at the head of the fraternal Sudanese people.

Question by MENA: What Egyptian-Sudanese role could possibly have an effect and influence on the PLO's present tribulation?

President Numayri: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. First, I would like to thank Brother President Husni Mubarak for allowing us the opportunity to meet again, within the framework of our several meetings, while I am en route to the tour of action that I have become accustomed to making to some friendly states at the beginning of each winter. I will now answer this question. I believe the situation has now become more serious than anyone can estimate, because the danger has reached the stage of losing the entire Arab cause. Egypt and Sudan, praise be to God, had previously carried out their role and warned the Arab brothers. They warned the Palestinians and all those working against the Palestinians of the dangerous consequences on the Arab question. At this particular time and in these days and hours when the Palestinian brothers find themselves in an impasse, I can offer nothing but deep regret over the present situation.

Question by CBS to President Mubarak: You said previously that Egypt will provide every possible aid to Yasir 'Arafat? Is it possible to define the type of aid?

President Mubarak: If what is itended by the question is what has been rumored about an Egyptian ship, flying the Egyptian flag, having sailed to the Lebanese shores carrying arms, then this report is absolutely untrue. Concerning the political support, we are exerting utmost efforts with all the brothers whom we can contact in the Arab and non-Arab states to help stop this bloodshed, which we believe will ultimately destroy the Palestinian question.

As for the evacuation of some Palestinian brothers from Lebanon, we have not changed our principle since the beginning of Lebanon's invasion. If the Palestinian brothers leave Lebanon, then there must be some hope of returning them to their motherland. However, the eviction of the Palestinians from Lebanon without a hope of returning to their land means frankly and correctly the full liquidation of the Palestinian question. We will not participate at all in the process of the final liquidation of the Palestinian question and the dispersion of the Palestinians in various parts of the Arab world.

Question by SUNA to President Husni Mubarak: It was recently reiterated in Sudan that Ethiopia is training Sudanese to carry out hostile actions against Sudan in Sudanese territory. What is Egypt's stand on this Ethiopian attitude? Does Egypt have any

intention or inclination to mediate between Ethiopia and Sudan or to extend aid to Sudan in this respect?

President Mubarak: Such a subject cannot be openly discussed. I will discuss this subject with Brother Ja'far Numayri. I believe there are constant contacts between Sudan and Ethiopia, and Sudan does not need mediation with Ethiopia. However, if we are asked to help, we will not hesitate to do so. Whatever President Ja'far Numayri demands, we will adopt. However, dialogue and discussions with neighbors always resolve pending disputes and issues.

Question by the Egyptian radio to President Ja'far Numayri: What comments does President Ja'far Numayri have on Egypt's sweeping success at the UN Security Council?

President Nuamyri: My comment simply is what I have always been saying and reiterating about Egypt, namely, that Egypt is a basic and effective force in world strategy. It has the elements of leadership in the Arab and African areas, as well as in the Islamic world. Therefore, we in Sudan were not surprised by Egypt's election to this position. In fact, it would be very strange if Egypt had not been elected a Security Council member-state. Egypt has been elected because it is qualified and deserves to occupy this position.

Question by *TIME* magazine to President Ja'far Numayri: Are there any indications that the rebels in southern Sudan are being supplied with arms?

President Numayri: So far we have not acknowledged [na'tarif] that a saboteur force is operating under one command and for one objective against Sudan. However, there is sporadic sabotage supported by Libya — a support that has no basis. Libya's support is only the dispatch of arms. In any case, Libya benefits from whatever happens, even if those whom it is supporting fight each other, as is now happening to the Lebanese people. This makes the Libyans assume the position of victors. Their only objective is to sabotage, upset positions, and agitate peoples everywhere. Libya is in the Philippines, Libya is in Ireland, Libya is in Grenada, Libya is in Sudan, Libya is in some areas in Africa, Libya is in Lebanon, and Libya sends arms for sabotage.

Question by the newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* to President Numayri: What are the aims of the tour you will be making to Italy, France, and the United States?

President Numayri: As I have said, it will be a working trip. First, to strengthen bilateral relations; and second, for consultations on some regional and international problems that concern Sudan and the countries I will be visiting.

Departs for Europe, U.S.

NC081120 Cairo MENA in English 1030 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 8 (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri and Mrs Numayri left here at noon today following talks with President Husni Mubarak. President Mubarak and Mrs Mubarak saw the distinguished [guests] off at the airport.

UK's Richard Luce Pays 2-Day Visit to Cairo

NC061655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 6 Nov (MENA) — Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Cairo from Amman this evening on a visit of several days to Egypt. Luce will hold talks with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and with other Egyptian officials on the latest developments in the Middle East and the Lebanese situation. The talks will also deal with the Egyptian-British relations. The British minister was received at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Baddawi.

Luce Discusses Visit's Objective

NC062147 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] In a statement upon his arrival in Cairo today, Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, said that the aim of his visit to Egypt is to exchange views with Egyptian officials on the situation in the Middle East, the Lebanese problem, and the Iraqi-Iranian war. He added that he will also conduct an assessment of the situation and of the means to solve these grave problems, particularly the Palestinian issue. The British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs expressed his country's pleasure over Egypt's election as a UN Security Council member, adding that Egypt is performing an important role not only concerning the Middle East area, but also concerning the African Continent.

Meets Mubarak 7 Nov

NC071113 Cairo MENA in English 1033 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 7 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received this morning Richard Luce, British minister of state at the Foreign Office.

Dr Butrus Ghali, state minister for foreign affairs, and the British ambassador here, Michael Weir, attended the meeting.

Luce said later he exchanged views with President Mubarak on the Mideast situation and bilateral ties. The discussions today were friendly and were based on the strong relations between Egypt and Britain, he said. The British official arrived here yesterday on a few days' visit to Egypt in the final leg of his fact finding tour of the region that took him to Israel and Jordan.

Confers With 'Ali

NC071513 Cairo MENA in English 1440 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 7 (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali conferred today with British State Minister for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce on the Mideast situation with emphasis on the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and Egypt's efforts in this respect. Discussion also touched on ways to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war and to halt the bloodshed between them. Means of boosting Egyptian-British relations in various fields were also considered.

Luce Departs 8 Nov

NC080647 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Nov (MENA) -- Richard Luce, the British minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo for home this morning at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to Cairo.

Chilean Foreign Minister Arrives 6 November

NC062109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 6 Nov (MENA) — Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer arrived in Cairo this evening on a 6-day visit to Egypt. Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, was at the airport to receive the Chilean guest.

In an arrival statement, the Chilean foreign minister said that the talks during the visit will touch on issues pertaining to the consolidation of relations between Egypt and Chile and their cooperation in the economic and trade spheres. He praised Egypt's role in establishing peace in the Middle East, and its ceaseless efforts for the sake of peace. He reiterated his country's support for these efforts, stressing that Egypt's Role in these efforts is something necessary.

Schweitzer expressed his pleasure that Egypt had won a seat on the United Nations [Security Council], saying: We had supported this because Egypt's efforts for the sake of peace can play an effective role within the United Nations.

Mubarak Meets Chilean Minister

NC071350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Nov (MENA) — At noon today President Husni Mubarak received at the presidential palace in Al-Qubbah Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer and the delegation accompanying him. Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Rolando Garay, the Chilean ambassador in Cairo, attended the meeting. Following the meeting, 'Ali said that the discussions dealt with the Middle East situation, the international situation in general, the Lebanese and Palestinian problems, and the need to move toward attaining comprehensive and just peace in the region. A review was made at the meeting of the situation in Latin America, the main problems there and the situation in Chile. The relations between Egypt and Chile and means of bolstering them were also discussed.

'Ali added that the Chilean foreign minister conveyed a message to President Mubarak from the Chilean president on cooperation between the two countries.

Answering a question on the siege imposed around the forces of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Tripoli, 'Ali said: President Mubarak referred to this question in his speech yesterday. He asserted that the pressure exerted on the PLO to contain it will reflect on the organization itself and on the Palestine question as a whole. He also asserted that 'Arafat represents the legitimacy of the organization and that his disappearance will not be in the interests of the cause or of the Palestinian legitimacy. Concerning the aid which Egypt extends to 'Arafat, the foreign minister said that political support to 'Arafat is continuing and will continue.

The Chilean foreign minister said that his meeting with President Husni Mubarak dealt with the situation in the Middle East, particularly the Palestinian situation, and ways of achieving a solution to this important issue which concerns Egypt and the entire world. The minister added that he acquainted President Mubarak with Chile's stance on international problems, especially the problems in Latin America; consolidation and development of relations of cooperation and friendship between Egypt and Chile were also discussed.

'Ali, Minister Exchange Toasts

NC072200 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed the necessity of reaching a just solution to the Palestinian problem — a solution based on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and their own state. He said that without a solution to the Palestinian problem, there will be no comphrehensive peace in the area. 'Ali called for the need to work toward effecting the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon in order to make it possible to solve the Lebanese problem. This came in the address 'Ali delivered tonight at the dinner banquet he gave in honor of the Chilean foreign minister. 'Ali lauded the relations linking Egypt and Chile in all domains. He expressed the hope that the Chilean foreign minister's visit to Egypt will contribute toward consolidating and strengthening relations between the two countries.

The Chilean foreign minister delivered an address in which he spoke about the need to work for the sake of establishing peace in the Middle East. He affirmed his country's support for Egypt's efforts in this regard. He called for consolidating and strengthening relations between Egypt and Chile so as to serve the two countries' interests. During a session of discussions held tonight, the Egyptian and Chilean sides reviewed various international questions, foremost being the situation in the Middle East and the developments in the Lebanese crisis. Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained the role Egypt is playing and the contacts it is holding to reach a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem and the Lebanese question. The two sides agreed to strengthen and deepen relations between the two countries.

Mubarak Issues Presidential Decrees on Economy

NC072025 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today issued presidential decrees establishing four public sector organisations in the fields of agricultural development, livestock and poultry development, fish wealth, and irrigation. These organizations are to supervise the companies that operate in these fields and to work for the implementation of the development plan. The president also issued another presidential decree prohibiting public sector companies from participating in other companies with private firms or individuals, except with the permission of the prime minister.

French Ambassador Meets Mubarak, Makes Statement

NC071043 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0950 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received at Al-Qubbah Palace French ambassador in Cairo Philippe Cuvillier. After the meeting, the ambassador said he conveyed a written message to President Mubarak from French President Francois Mitterrand congratulating Egypt on winning a seat in the Security Council. The message also includes the French Government's desire to maintain Egyptian-French cooperation in the peace process for solving the area's vital problems and strengthening fruitful cooperation between the two countries. The French ambassador said: President Mubarak asked me to convey his greetings and thanks to President Mitterrand. He added that at the meeting they exchanged views regarding the current Middle East situation, which is extremely serious.

Abu Ghazalah Returns to Cairo, Makes Statement

LD052218 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and his accompanying delegation, returned to Cairo this evening from Munich after a 5-day visit to the FRG. On his arrival, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said his talks with German Defense Minister Manfred Woerner dealt with the situation in the Middle East and the Mediterranean, as well as questions which concern Egypt strategically and to a certain extent politically. The minister of defense and war production added that he found great and clear understanding from the German defense minister of the region's problems and Egypt's stand toward them.

He noted that he and the accompanying delegation visited many industrial establishments in Germany and saw German technology in civilian and military industry. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah explained that during the visit he saw a great desire to offer every assistance to developing Egyptian industry in general. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah was welcomed at the airport by senior commanders of the Armed Forces and by the FRG's ambassador in Cairo.

Mubarak Briefed on Trip

NC071117 Cairo MENA in English 1025 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 7 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak this morning received at Al-Qubbah Palace, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence and Military Production Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah. Following the meeting, Marshal Abu Ghazalah said he has reported to President Mubarak on his recent trip to West Germany. He said his visit was designed to explore the possibility of utilising German technology to develop Egypt's military industries. He denied that the visit was aimed at reaching agreement on the purchase of any types of German weapons. He said that he had agreed with German officials on the broad lines and that joint talks would now be held to make utmost use of German technology in developing Egyptian arms industries. Marshal Abu Ghazalah pointed out that Egypt was not after complete plants, but rather certain equipment which, if introduced in Egyptian factories, would achieve a major leap in developing military production. Marshal Abu Ghazalah said that he would visit Britain by the end of this month in response to an earlier invitation. He said the visit would fall within the context of the strong ties between Egypt and Britain in the fields of arms purchases and military industries.

On another subject, he denied reports that an Egyptian military ship had sailed for Beirut yesterday. He also denied that Egypt had supplied any aid to Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He said the only assistance Egypt was offering was political efforts to settle the Palestinian issue. Concluding, Marshal Abu Ghazalah said Egypt's policy was to refrain from military interference in any disputes.

Abu Ghazalah Bonn Interview

DW070933 Bonn DIE WELT in German 4 Nov 83 p 12

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah by correspondent Juergen Liminski in Bonn; date not given]

[Text] Egyptian Defense Minister Muhammad Abu Ghazalah doesn't exclude the possibility of Egypt participating in military intervention in the Persian Gulf if this should become necessary in the interests of the Western world. In a conversation with *DIE WELT* he named three conditions to justify this:

"1. There must be a real danger, for example, the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

"2. Cairo must be asked for help in the form of a concrete mission by the threatened neighbor states.

"3. Action by Egyptian Armed Forces in the Gulf can occur only jointly and in coordination with units of Western powers."

The minister defined the common interests of Egypt and the West in the Gulf as follows: "We need Western technology and loans for our national reconstruction. The West needs an unimpeded energy supply of such as the oil from the Gulf. Without oil for the West, we will receive no help from the West. Therefore, we are as interested in the stability of the Gulf and Saudi Arabia as America, Europe, and Japan are."

Abu Ghazalah is currently visiting the FRG. This is the first visit by an Egyptian defense minister to the FRG. He is considered to be Washington's man in Cairo and an intimate friend of Mubarak. When the fatal shots were fired at As-Sadat, Mubarak was standing to the right of the president and Abu Ghazalah to the left. He is trying to strenghten cooperation with the West in the strategic military field. However, he said his visit to the FRG is not aimed at buying modern weapons systems here. He said that was "not an issue" he discussed with Woerner.

A former Egyptian military attache in Washington, Abu Ghazalah considers the main danger for the Middle East and particularly Africa to be the "enormous Soviet-Cuban infiltration of Africa." according to him, some 69,000 Soviets and Cubans are

in this part of the world. Their main contingents consist of 6,000 Soviets and 8,000 Cubans in Ethiopia, some 5,000 Russians and 20,000 Cubans in Angola, and 3,000 Soviets and 6,000 Cubans in Libya. Abu Ghazalah said: "That is Moscow's rapid deployment force, but it is already deployed." He said that Egypt feels threatened by this, and it is for this reason that he has stationed more than half of his Armed Forces along the border with Libya. He said Egypt is the "key country for stability in this region."

Regarding Israel's concern over the new buildup of the Egyptian Army, the minister said: "For us, peace in the Middle East is a strategic aim of vital importance." Egypt is not creating a new and bigger army, it is simply replacing its weapons systems, he said. Compared with other countries, Egypt has disarmed during the past 8 years. Israel is also buying new weapons, he said, adding that Cairo is not concerned by that. However, "everyone has the right to feel concerned," the minister stated.

Abu Ghazalah said that Egypt is buying "weapons only from the West." Only a few small boats have been supplied by China. The Romanian tank deal was a "circuitous exchange deal with Iraq." The minister believed that speculation attributing significance to this deal similar to that of the so-called Czechoslovak weapons deal of 1955 were greatly exaggerated. He said Cairo had loaned 200 tanks to Baghdad which Iraq could no longer return. Therefore, Iraq had bought 200 tanks of a similar type from Romania for Egypt, and Cairo had received only 60 of them so far. Cairo is concerned about saving Iraq from collapse and about ending the war in the Gulf, the minister said. Iran is now trying to overrun Iraq, he said. Tehran is the "warmongering force," Abu Ghazalah said, adding that it must be stopped.

The defense minister severely criticized Syria. He said there was no hostility toward Damascus, but Syria was pursuing a policy "diametrically opposed" to that of Egypt. "What in the world are the Syrians doing in Lebanon?" Abu Ghazalah asked. Syria should withdraw its troops from Lebanon just as Israel has, he said. If no foreign troops were present in this Middle East country, a solution could be found very quickly, he concluded.

Abu Ghazalah Denies Intent To Intervene in Gulf

NC081856 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1848 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has denied what the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* attributed to him today to the effect that Egypt might intervene militarily in the Gulf under certain circumstances and in coordination with Western forces. In a statement to MENA, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said that this report is completely devoid of truth.

'Ali Receives Report on Lebanese Conference

NC042130 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this evening received a detailed and comprehensive report on the results of the Lebanese national reconciliation conference from minister plenipotentiary Salah Zaki, head of the Egyptian interests team in Beirut. 'Ali sent Zaki to Geneva to follow the work of the Lebanese national reconciliation conference. The report also includes the results of the contacts Salah Zaki held with various Lebanese factions and personalities representing all trends participating in the conference. 'Ali asked Zaki to come to Cairo immediately en route to Lebanon for further discussions and consultations on all aspects, expectations, and details of the conference.

Ghali on Objective of African Khartoum Meeting

NC080830 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0706 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, the minister of state for foreign affairs, has stressed that the meeting of the five African states which was recently held in Khartoum and attended by Egypt, Sudan, Zaire, Uganda, and Central Africa does not conflict with the Lagos plan of action, which the OAU [word indistinct].

In an interview published by *AL-AKHBAR* today, Tuesday, Ghali says that the importance of this meeting lies in the fact that the states which participated in this meeting have a population of 112 million people, approximately one third of Africa's population. Ghali emphasizes that this African force embracing the five states is not directed against anybody and that its objective is not to form a bloc or alliance against any state or group of states. Dr Ghali says that the objective of the meeting was to ensure joint constructive action and consolidate cooperation in the economic, trade, and technical domains. Ghali explains that the mere holding of the Khartoum conference is a success in itself because it expresses a political desire for cooperation, coordination, and joint action.

Air Force To Receive French Helicopters

NC051628 Cairo MENA in English 1530 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 5 (MENA) — The Egyptian Air Force will receive the first French-made Gazelle helicopter gunship assembled at the Egyptian military factories sometime this month, commander of the Air Force Air Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi said today. He added that assembling of the French designed helicopters in Egypt comes within the context of the Egyptian-French cooperation programme.

In a press conference held today on the occasion of the 51st Air Force anniversary, Air Marshal Hilmi said that by the end of next year American-made Hawkeye radar reconaissance planes and French-made Mirage 2000 fighters will join the Egyptian Air Force for the first time.

Air Marshal Hilmi said that the Hawkeye airborne early warning systems are characterised by their long-range reconaissance ability of monitoring fighters, bombers, naval units and air defence systems. The Mirage 2000, which is the most modern fighter in the world, has a high efficiency of pursuing its targets, he said. He added that Egyptian pilots and technicians are being trained in the U.S. and France to operate these new aircraft.

On the joint Egyptian-British and Egyptian-American manoeuvres held recently, Air Marshal Hilmi said that these drills have proved the high efficiency of the Egyptian Air Force, referring to the fact that an Egyptian MIG-19 intercepted an American F-14 and prevented it from reaching its target. He added that Egypt's Air Force has benefited from the dogfight experience gained by Britain during the Falkands war. Concluding, Air Marshal Hilmi underlined that the Egyptian Air Force was carrying on hard training to be ready at any time to discharge any mission entrusted to it.

NDP's Mustafa Khalil Comments on Lebanon, Gulf

PM081627 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 6 Nov 83 pp 3, 10

[Interview with NDP deputy leader and former Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil by Qamarshah Dhu al-Fiqar; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Why are there foreign Multinational Answer: The Multinational Force went to Lebanon at the request of the legitimate Lebanese Government. In the beginning the force played the essential and specific role of facilitating the departure of the Palestinian resistance forces from Lebanon and restoring order and security in the areas of conflict. The force played that part fully. Had it not been for the presence of the Multinational Force, the Israeli siege of Beirut and occupation of the northern sector would have continued.

Question: What about Amin al-Jumayyil's attitude?

Answer: Amin al-Jumayyil was faced with many challenges. The first challenge was the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. That agreement, concluded under circumstances of occupation, was not the ideal agreement. Although the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has approved it, the president still has not signed it to this day.

Israel's position in Lebanon is quite different from that of Syria because the latter first went to Lebanon at Lebanon's request and with the approval of the Arab states. At that time Lebanon's security and stability needed protection. That was another challenge. A third challenge is this: The situation regarding the Syrian presence in Lebanon has now changed. The legitimate Lebanese Government now wants all foreign elements, including the Syrian forces, to withdraw immediately.

The real question now is: What is the Multinational Force doing in that quagmire now? It had a role to play and it played it. What role is there for it now? Nobody knows. The Lebanese authorities have not asked the Multinational Force to leave because these authorities are still not in control of all Lebanese territory. It should be pointed out here that the position of the Multinational Force in Lebanon is different from the position of the forces in Grenada, a small island attacked by forces of the United States and six other Caribbean states. The Multinational Force is in Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese Government and president.

Question: If you see no need for the Multinational Force in Lebanon now, how do you explain President Reagan's statement that the United States has interests there and that the [U.S.] force would not withdraw?

Answer: Each one of the four states [contributing to the Multinational Force] has interest in Lebanon and the Middle East. This is no secret. These interests differ from state to state. Western states have interests in oil, trade, and Arab markets, especially the arms market, particularly as far as France is concerned.

The United States and the West also have strategic interests. They want to prevent control of the region by the Soviet Union, a rival power. So there are acknowledged Western interests, but the question is, do the conflicting Lebanese sects approve the occupation of their homeland? The answer is simply, no.

Question: What about the Palestinian question and the chances of a settlement, and what about reiterated claims that Yasir 'Arafat is a weak negotiator?

Answer: From the very beginning I have held a certain view regarding negotiations over the West Bank and Gaza, and I still insist on that view. Syria will never enable the United States or anyone else to settle the Palestinian question unless the question of the Golan Heights is settled first. Whether Yasir 'Arafat is strong or weak is immaterial. The Golan Heights question comes first. The Palestinian question is the only card that Syria can play to end the Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights peacefully, as in the case of Sinai, because Syria will never engage in a military battle with Israel, otherwise it would have done so when Israel invaded Lebanon.

Speaking of peaceful settlement, Israel has created obstacles by applying the Israeli law to the Golan in violation of the Camp David agreements and the letter and spirit of the UN resolutions. We objected to this measure and we also called on Syria to sit down at the negotiating table with Israel and to discuss security arrangements in the Golan without making any concessions that would allow Israel to expand geographically at Syria's expense.

The solution now is that President Reagan should put forward a new initiative on the Golan, otherwise the Palestinian resistance will never be able to participate in any present or future negotiations. The situation is very clear to the United States now. If the United States wants to solve the Palestinian problem it must first consider solving the Golan problem.

Question: Will the plan, sponsored by the Gulf states, for an Iraqi-Syrian reconciliation before the next Arab summit conference be at the expense of Egyptian-Iraqi relations?

Answer: Egypt's position on the Iraqi-Iranian war is one of support for Iraq because it defends and does not attack and because it is trying to draw the Iranian side to the negotiating table even by means of military pressure. I do not believe that Iraq would barter its relations with Egypt for its relations with Syria because it needs them both. The situation in Iraq is very serious. Should Iraq collapse, the result would be its partition into statelets and the Gulf would then suffer the same fate, as Syria itself would then not be able to escape Khomeyni's blows. I appeal

to the Arab states to cast aside their differences which serve rulers and harm Arab national interests.

Question: Do you believe that Iran would carry out its threat to close the Strait of Hormuz?

Answer: We must realize that Iraq's oil exports are 1.1 million barrels a day which is not enough to cover the war expenses. Iran exports twice as much oil, in addition to its gas exports to the Soviet Union. If Iraq manages to strike at Iran's oil resources by using sophisticated aircraft and missiles or if it manages to hit oil terminals or tankers it would paralyze Iranian oil exports. The resulting crisis would force Iran to give in and agree to negotiate from a position of weakness, which is unacceptable to Khomeyni. That is why Iran's threat to close the Strait is a serious one.

Question: Egypt, noticeably, does have some relations with the Arab states but Saudi Arabia is still saying that Arab-Egyptian relations were severed by a unanimous decision and their resumption must also be by a unanimous decision. Can the Arabs now be unanimous on anything?

Answer: Egypt has done its duty to the Arab nation. Using the Camp David agreement as an excuse [for severing relations] is completely unacceptable because the Camp David agreement lays the foundation for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict. The Egyptian-Israeli agreement is one step toward a comprehensive settlement. At the Fes summit conference, the Arab states approved the Fahd plan and did not object to the Reagan plan. This means that they accept Israel's existence and agree to a peaceful settlement, which is exactly Egypt's position. So what is the difference? The difference is that certain Arab states covet leadership of the Arab nation. There is also the role Syria is playing to prevent settlement of the Palestinian question before the Golan question. As regards the insistence on Arab unanimity, this to us is unacceptable nonsense because there has never been Arab unamimity on any issue. Furthermore, the present situation in the region cannot tolerate such justifications.

Planning Minister Leaves for FRG Visit

NC070937 Cairo MENA in English 0852 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov 7 (MENA) — Planning Minsiter Dr Kamal al-Janzuri left here this morning for Bonn, on a five-day visit to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). Al-Janzuri will discuss with German officials means of fostering economic relations between the two countries. The Egyptian official will expound what had been implemented in the first two years of Egypt's five-year plan. The Egyptian minister will also visit some German development institutions and a number of major firms.

Iraq's Ramadan Stops Over at Cairo 9 Nov

NC091200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 9 Nov (MENA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, has stated that his country supports the Palestinian legitimacy represented by the PLO and the Palestinian people's right to choose PLO representatives without foreign custodianship. During his stopover at Cairo airport today from Baghdad en route for Bucharest, Ramadan said foreign and Arab interference is the cause of the current situation in Lebanon. The interference by others in Lebanon has been the subversive factor. He added: We support the unity of Lebanese people and land because they are part of the Arab nation. Speaking about his visit to Romania and Bulgaria, Ramadan said it is aimed at bolstering bilateral cooperation in all fields in addition to holding consultations in political affairs, the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, the Middle East situation, and the current circumstances Iraq is passing through. He was received and seen off at the airport by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Tyre Blast, Israeli Reaction

NC050656 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 5 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-JUMHURIYAH*'s editorial on the blowing up of the Israeli Command headquarters in Tyre says: Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg painfully stood before the corpses of the Israeli soldiers, which were mixed with the debris of the headquarters of the governor of the Israeli occupation forces in the occupied Lebanese town of Tyre. The paper points out that Burg regretfully said he hoped there would be retaliation for the operation. Burg's hopes were realized as Israeli aircraft proceeded to raid the Syrians, the Palestinians, and the Lebanese.

The paper continues: What happened yesterday is a repetition of the same Israeli method that had submerged Lebanon in a swamp of blood and with it submerged the U.S. and French forces. It was the method of revenge that had prompted the former Begin government to invade Lebanon. The paper asks:

And what was the result? The corpses of scores of Israeli soldiers under the debris of the military command headquarters — which has been blown up twice in Tyre — prove the failure of this method, which only means more blood. The paper expresses regret that Israel has not learned its lesson, for what Burg had hoped for was not what we had hoped for, because revenge is an unending bloody chain, whereas peace based on justice is the end to all wars.

AL-AHRAM on Eagleburger Visit to Israel

NC060837 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 6 Nov 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial *AL-AHRAM* says Egypt is studying with interest reports from Tel Aviv on the visit to Israel by Lawrence Eagleburger, U.S. under secretary for political affairs, as well as the speeches and official statements that were exchanged during the visit. In this context *AL-AHRAM* draws attention to statements by Isreali sources that the United States had proposed the reactivation of the strategic understanding memorandum reached between the United States and Israel when Ari'el Sharon was defense minister. President Reagan threatened to freeze the memorandum after the invasion of

Lebanon. Begin later announced Israel's freezing of it. *AL-AHRAM* explains that the situation requires that the real reasons and the objectives behind the reactivation of this alliance be revealed now, particularly if the information from Israel is precise and correct. If this is the case, then the reactivation of this cooperation at a time when Israel has not yet declared its timetable for a withdrawal from Lebanon indicates that the steps taken within the framework of this alliance might affect its decision to withdraw. It could also be a U.S. measure preliminary to freezing the Israeli-Lebanese accord or to rendering it invalid.

AL-AHALI Compares U.S. Actions in Lebanon, Grenada

PM081020 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 2 Nov 83 p 2

[Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad "Our Foreign Policy" column: "Waging War Under the Sign of Peace"]

[Text] Reagan has admitted that his invasion of Grenada is linked to the bombing of the U.S. forces' headquarters in Beirut. He said: "Events in Lebanon and Grenada, although separated by oceans, are closely linked." He added: "We as a superpower with worldwide responsibilities must protect the countries where we have vital interests." He said that the enemy in both cases was the Soviet Union, which is responsible for the massacres of the Marines and the coup in Grenada and which also resorts to terror as a means to threaten "our vital interests in the Middle East and the Caribbean."

By invading Grenada Reagan has thrown new light on the U.S. presence in the Middle East under the title "peacekeeping force" or "Rapid Deployment Force [RDF]." As Egyptians this matter concerns us directly because of this permanent presence in Sinai under the treaty with Israel and the intermittent presence at Egyptian bases where facilities are granted to the United States, as well as during Egyptian joint maneuvers with the RDF.

It has been proved beyond doubt that in Reagan's view the concept of peacekeeping encompasses the right to wage "protective war." His excuse to justify the invasion of Grenada is that it has allegedly given him the opportunity to find clear evidence that Cuba was preparing to occupy this small island. Such justification is a blatant violation of international law to such a degree that the closest U.S. allies, headed by Britain, France, West Germany, Spain, Japan, and all the Latin American countries have objected to it.

We have said before that Reagan's intervention on the side of the Phalangists against the Druze and the Shi'ites in Lebanon on the pretext of supporting the legitimate authorities means turning the "peacekeeping" force into a party to the conflict and escalating the war, not the achievement of peace. It ultimately led to the suicidal operation of blowing up the "peacekeeping forces" headquarters in Beirut. Using the "peacekeeping" sign to justify carrying out retribution is no longer confined to Lebanon alone; it has become a U.S. principle generally applied to the whole world, just as it is condemned by all the world. Egypt will not escape its consequences because of the presence of a U.S. peacekeeping force on its territory.

Reagan does not conceal the fact that his military intervention on the pretext of "peacekeeping" is in defense of "U.S. vital interests" and — in the Middle East — in order to "support Israel's security" and not to settle bloody conflicts on a just basis. Rather Reagan ignores the legitimate rights of the local parties and supports only the parties that serve his global strategy. He completely ignores the Palestinian people's rights and admits overlooking "Syrian security" requirements when his envoy Philip Habib played a major role in the conclusion of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Reagan adapts local conflicts to the requirements of the cold war he is waging against the Soviet Union and projects them as conflicts created by the Soviets, who use "international terror" to undermine "U.S. vital interests." The fact is that it is Reagan who exploits these conflicts to serve a plan from which he does not deviate — to escalate international tension, abort every attempt to prevent the deployment of the Cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe, and push the arms race toward a new threshhold that threatens a nuclear war.

In the light of all this we should ask: Where does Egypt stand?

President Mubarak was right to warn the United States against any retribution operation in Lebanon, to assert that violence leads to more violence, that the Israeli presence in Lebanon is the reason for the deterioration in the situation, and that it is necessary for Israel to withdraw from Lebanon in accordance with a timetable.

But the Egyptian stand is not consistent. The warning is restricted to the possible reaction to U.S. action in the Lebanese arena alone but does not cover the reaction worldwide. Cairo supported the U.S. intervention in Grenada, and [Minister of State for Foreign Affairs] Dr Butrus Ghali said that "the military intervention in Grenada was compatible with the UN Charter." Only Israel, South Korea, and New Zealand supported Egypt in this interpretation of the UN Charter. Is the presence of the U.S. peacekeeping force in Sinai the reason behind Cairo's inability to adopt a consistent stand?

Attack on Khark Island Believed 'Imminent'

GF0990540 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 9 Nov 83 p 1

[Excerpts] An attack on Iran's Khark Island oil terminal is the only way to end the Gulf war stalemate, Iraq said last night.

An attack would break Iran's will, a senior Iraqi diplomat said.

Such action could force Iran to carry out its threat to seal the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf, through which a sixth of the non communist world's oil passes.

Diplomats in Baghdad said there was a general feeling there that an attack on Khark Island near the head of the Gulf was imminent, possibly with Soviet-supplied Scud missiles.

The Iraqi official said Baghdad saw the Khark Island facilities as feeding Iran's war machine and encouraging it to mount attacks on Iraq.

The Soviet Scud B missile, with a range of 270 kms could easily hit Khark which lies only 210 kms from Iraqi territory.

Communique Reports 3,216 Iranians Killed 2-7 Nov

JN0981743 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,273 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

As long as the murderous rulers in Iran insist on their aggression and expansionist dreams and on continuing their attacks against great Iraq and its heroic people, they will always taste bitter defeats and lose heavily in men and equipment. The results have been as follows.

1. The enemy losses sustained during battles between our brave Armed Forces and the enemy forces of aggression in the Panjwin area of the I Army Corps, opposite part of our units from 2-7 November 1983, have been counted so far as 3,216 dead, large numbers of wounded and captured, and various numbers of tanks, medium and light weapons, and various equipment destroyed. Our forces have also captured great quantities of serviceable weapons. Yesterday new groups of Iranian military men and civilians sought refuge with our forward units in another area of the northern sector of the front. They were escaping charlatan Khomeyni's inferno and suspect regime. They were all safely evacuated to the rear. In another area of the same sector, one of our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite its positions, killing 63, wounding many more, and destroying 2 vehicles, 1 hardware stockpile, and a number of weapons and various military equipment.

2. Our helicopter gunships today attacked enemy concentrations in the northern sector of the front, scoring direct hits and inflicting losses in men and equipment. All our helicopters returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

3. One was killed, and one infantry position and one mortar emplacement were destroyed in the area east of Basra. Those manning the mortar were also killed.

4. Two were killed in the central sector of the front.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 November 1983.

Daily Threatens Iran With Destruction

JN0981550 Baghdad INA in English 1445 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 8, INA — The Baghdad daily *AL-JUMHURIYAH* warned Tehran rulers that Iraq would severely retaliate so as to make them tangibly realize that prolonging the war has an additional price which they should pay.

The Iraqi daily in an editorial today under the title of "They Will Even Lose Themselves" said Iraq has the right to opt certain ways and means by which Tehran rulers may understand that continuing war and offending Iraq would cost them a very high price.

Iraq would not only be satisfied with encountering the offensive but would resort to attack targets deep inside Iran until Tehran rulers come to their senses and realize that prolonging war is not in their favour, it said.

"War is war, and he who chooses it as the only means, should realize that it means killing and destruction. Iraq would no longer care if Iran was destroyed and would hardly and mercilessly strike to make the arrogant Iranian rulers pay the highest price," it added.

As long as Tehran rulers were not convinced by all international, Islamic and Non-Aligned Movement's peaceful efforts, then Iraq has no other alternative but resorting to force without reserve in self-defence and in maintaining its people's vital interests, it said.

In conclusion, the newspaper said that Iraq would not allow Tehran rulers to behave the way they like and attack Iraq whenever they want. Iraq would paralyze their war machine and inflict heavy losses on them in men and equipment until they not only lose the war but even lose themselves.

President Receives Presidential Guard Brigade

JN0981347 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1302 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the members of the presidential guard brigade and the special forces fighters after they participated in beating back the Iranian forces' aggression in the Panjwin area last Friday. Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and minister of defense, and Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, chief of staff of the army, participated in the reception. A great number of people lined the sidewalks along the street as the procession of the great heroes passed.

Iranian Kurds To Announce Autonomy Soon

JN071640 Baghdad INA in English 1340 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Vienna, 7 Nov, INA — The Kurdish population of Iran, estimated at 4 million people, will unilaterally declare their region an authonomous province during the next few days, the West German news paper *FRANKFURTER ALIGEMEINE* said today.

The paper quoted the leader of Iran's Kurdish Democratic Party, Abdorrahman Qasemlu, as saying that the autonomy formula had already been approved by the Paris-based Iranian opposition council.

"Various Iranian Kurdish movements have reached an agreement on this formula, which will secure the rights of Kurdish people of Iran," he said.

Mr. Qasemlu was in Paris last month, where he held talks with the leader of Iranian opposition council, Masud Rajavi.

Ramadan, 'Aziz Greet Soviet Union on GOSR

JN081528 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1348 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, last night visited the Soviet Embassy in Baghdad, which was celebrating the Great October Socialist Revolution's 66th anniversary. Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings and congratulations to the Soviet officials led by Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. He wished the Soviet officials good health and happiness, the friendly Soviet people further progress, and USSR-Iraqi friendship and cooperation increased development to promote the two people's joint interests and bolster peace and progress.

The Soviet ambassador welcomed the two Iraqi officials, expressing his thanks and profound gratitude to them and saying that their visit reflects the two countries' developed relations. He affirmed the Soviet leadership's pride in the two countries' good relations and its desire to develop and expand them further in order to serve their two countries' joint interests.

Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals, and 'Ismat Kittani, the Foreign Ministry's first under secretary, attended the celebration.

Cuban, CSSR Ministers Conclude Visits 7 Nov

JN081257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) — Levi Farah, Cuban minister of state and chairman of the Cuban Construction Committee, and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad last night after a visit to Iraq that lasted several days. The Cuban minister held talks with Iraqi officials on bilateral relations and the means to promote them.

CSSR Minister of Transportation Vladimir Blazek and the delegation accompanying him also left Baghdad last night after a visit to Iraq. During his visit, he held talks and meetings with Iraqi officials on means of promoting cooperation between Iraq and the CSSR in transportation, communications, and other fields.

UK State Minister for Trade Ends Visit

JN082056 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2008 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) Paul Channon, British minister of state for trade, left Baghdad today at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to Iraq. Channon told INA that his visit to Iraq had positive, useful results that will contribute to promoting the two countries' cooperation in the various fields.

Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Brings Message

JN090705 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2035 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Nov (INA) — Karolos Papoulas, Greek deputy foreign minister, arrived in Baghdad tonight on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Papoulas said he brings a written message from Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. He added that he will exchange viewpoints with Iraqi officials on the current international state of affairs and bilateral relations.

Ramadan To Visit Romania First Half This Month

JN041236 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] At the invitation of Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, will pay an official visit to Romania during the first half of this month.

King Meets With Palestinian Camps Officials
JN081859 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn met at the Royal Hashemite Court today with the representatives of Palestinian camps and organizations. Addressing them, he said: Our nation is passing through difficult circumstances and is facing challenges and dangers. Every free and honest Arab is witnessing hard days, the effects of which are are alleviated by the stand of the sons and owners of the cause who do not forget the rights that must be restored to them and the experiences which they and those who preceded them witnessed on the long path. We renew with them the determination to stand against the evil forces and to say the words of justice without fearing any party. The pains are cherished in our souls and consciences toward this deteriorating situation which our Arab nation is witnessing, and toward the suffering of our kinfolk in the occupied territories, our brothers who were chosen to represent the Palestinian people in north Lebanon, and the thousands of our prisoners in southern Lebanon. These pains emanate from the attempts that are being made in daylight to rob the Palestinian people of their rights to an independent decisionmaking, free expression of opinion, and to defend their legitimacy and existence. These pains emanate from attempts to deprive them of their card similar to the fall into certain hands of the Lebanese and Arab cards.

The king added: We will take the stand of one man, armed with our enlightenment, Arab originality, and true affiliation to this nation and march. The king expressed determination to block the door before all the enemies in order to prevent them from achieving their objectives and to foil their conspiracies which aim at weakening, confusing, and fragmenting this Arab nation into groups, parties, and sects. The king said: With the help of God and the determination of everyone, Jordan will be the genuine and steadfast fortress which raises the banner of the Great Arab Revolution — the banner of Palestine and the honest Arabs.

The king concluded his speech by asserting confidence in the inevitability of the victory of right and the determination to pursue every possible effort toward off any harm to the Arab nation.

The representatives of Palestinian camps and organizations praised the king's stands of manhood, boldness, and heroism in continued support for the Palestinian people and their just cause, affirming that he is defending the Palestinian and other Arab rights out of faith in the principles of the Great Arab Revolution. They also affirmed that the king is always capable under stress of adopting honorable stands toward halting the aggression to which the Palestinian and Lebanese sons of the Arab nation are subjected in north Lebanon.

NCC Sends Cable of Support to King Husayn
JN072319 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the National Consultative Council [NCC] has sent the following cable to his Majesty King Husayn:

Your Hashemite Majesty King Husayn, with much feeling of pride, loyalty, and appreciation, the NCC, during its session today on, 7 November 1983, made a joint decision to send to Your Majesty its true appreciation, complete loyalty, and support for the decisive historical positions you adopt and for the pioneering pan-Arab paths on which you lead Jordan with determination, truthfulness, and sincerity. You give every Arab the most magnificent example that struggle and the preservation of the principles of the Great Arab Revolution are not only slogans that you adopt to deal with a particular stage or a maneuver to overcome an obstacle, but are also a positions you are born for. They are examples of the firm faith through which you want to serve God and this nation and its just cause.

On behalf of the NCC, and in my own name, I present to your honorable rank our appreciation and support and the support of all the sons of the Jordanian people and all the Arabs and Muslims who are loyal to these principles for which you have worked since you assumed the leadership of the homeland — the last example of which was yesterday which expressed your support for the Palestinian brothers, whose camps are being shelled in northern Lebanon in preparation for obliterating their legitimate leadership, controlling their will, and transferring their institutions to the hands of submissive agents in order to exploit the first Arab cause and the Palestinian people's rights in the markets of bargaining and conspiracies.

You have announced that you are concerned about restoring the ability of your country's citizens to participate, give, and bear the full responsibility. You have never denied that ability and you have never abandoned its spirit in all your practices and behavior during the most difficult moments and in the darkest hours.

Seizing this opportunity to renew its support and loyalty to all the honest people and to their historical leaders, the NCC pledges that it will continue behind your leadership, work for stabilizing true democracy, strengthen national unity among the sons of the one family, and support the Palestinian brothers in all circles against any injustice, such as the one to which they are being subjected in Lebanon today at the hands of the Syrian and Libyan rulers. May God preserve you for your nation and homeland, Your Majesty.

Amman Rejects Consequences of Tripoli Conspiracy
JN090745 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Out of the Jordanian people and leadership's faith in the unity of the Arab nation, its existence, and destiny, the National Consultative Council [NCC] stand, which was declared yesterday, expresses Jordan's deep awareness of its great responsibility on the pan-Arab level during the current difficult circumstances. If the present conspiracy to liquidate the PLO is an advance step toward liquidating the Palestine question, the NCC's call for halting the massacres to which the PLO is being subjected in the Tripoli area reaffirms Jordan's rejection of any consequences of this conspiracy. Jordan's rejection is based on the legitimate Palestinian masses' rejection which was expressed in the occu-

pied Gaza and the West Bank; the Palestinian camps and centers in Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon; and wherever these masses may be both inside and outside the Arab World. Thus, any consequences of the battles to physically the PLO cadres in north Lebanon will be rejected on the Palestinian level in particular and on the Arab level in general.

Jordan's rejection of these anticipated consequences of liquidating or replacing the PLO affirms a new reality of which the Palestinians and the Arabs are aware; namely, that Jordan's commitment and responsibility toward its Palestinian brothers will not change. They originate from historical, geographical, demographic and psychological realities which can not be cancelled by the removal of legitimacy from the Palestinian leadership which is being subjected to the most savage onslaught which aims at physically liquidating it by Arab hands and on Arab land. The people who, in the most difficult circumstances, knew how to give the legitimacy to the Palestinian leadership which is being pursued by the Syrian and Libyan regime, also know how to face the savage onslaught on their decision and freedom to choose their course and leadership. Furthermore, what is required on the Palestinian and Jordanian levels has been expressed during the past few days; namely, rejecting any consequences of the massacres in north Lebanon. We hope that the Arabs would follow the same course for which there is no alternative if they want to remain loyal to their cause and concerned about the unity of their existence and stand, especially at this particularly difficult phase through which our Arab nation and its cause are passing.

Statement on Shooting of 2 Embassy Guards in Athens

JN081139 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — A Foreign Ministry responsible source has stated the following: Yesterday evening, Monday, a criminal attack was carried out against two of the Jordanian Embassy guards in Athens. An unidentified gunman shot at them while they were returning to their homes after office hours. This vile criminal incident led to the martyrdom of Muhammad Karim Shadid and the serious injury of Ahmad Mahmud 'Uqlah. The latter is still undergoing intensive medical care.

The Foreign Ministry, while announcing to our Jordanian and Arab people with great sorrow and distress the martyrdom of Shadid while performing his national duty, emphasizes its great denunciation of such despicable criminal acts which are perpetrated by rancorous, agent factions that do not serve any pan-Arab objective or cause and have nothing to do with the homeland or with Arab nation's hopes and aims, but implement what serves the plans and aims of this nation's enemies.

The Foreign Ministry also stresses that such vile acts will not influence Jordan's determination to continue its genuine, wise, and brave Arab policy which serves our Arab nation's aims and seeks to liberate our occupied Arab territories. Our sons abroad are among the soldiers of this country who are sincerely working in its service and who made a pledge to God that they will continue to serve it without fear. Such terrorist acts will not dissuade them from serving the homeland and the nation.

'Arab Revolutionary Brigades' Attack

NC081348 Paris AFP in English 1338 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov 8 (AFP) — An anonymous caller today claimed yesterday's shooting of two Jordanian Embassy employees in Athens for the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades," the same group which said it was responsible for the recent attacks on Jordanian ambassadors in New Delhi and Rome.

The caller, who said he was phoning from the Gulf state of Qatar, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in Paris that the Athens attack which left one man dead and another critically wounded was part of the group's planned "confrontation with the Jordanian regime."

Both victims yesterday were bodyguards of the Jordanian ambassador, it was reported on Greek state television.

The Arab revolutionary brigades last month claimed responsibility for the September 23 crash of a Gulf Air jet in which 111 were killed.

The caller told AFP the group wanted Jordan to scrap plans for a Jordanian intervention force for the Middle East and end its support for the "fascist group" headed by Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat.

The Jordanian ambassadors to New Delhi and Rome were seriously injured in attempts on their lives, on October 25 and 26 respectively. Both attacks were claimed by the Arab Revolutionary Brigades.

JORDAN TIMES Warns U.S. Against Retaliation

JN081215 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Caution, U.S. Might"]

[Text] The U.S. should not strike militarily in Lebanon to avenge the killing of 230 Marines in Beirut last month not only because the risks of military operations against either Syrian-backed militias or the Syrians themselves are incalculable at this stage but also because those who killed the U.S. servicemen are already dead and gone.

It is equally wrong for Washington to think that after the suicide bomb attack against the Marines headquarters near Beirut airport, and the other against the French at the same time, the U.S. could gain by retaliation. If anything, American credibility would indeed suffer the wrath of more Arabs, perhaps all Arabs, if the U.S. put itself in the same boat with the Israelis in attacking the same Arab targets.

Some may argue that senior American officials, from the President down, have put their personal reputation on the line by committing themselves to strike back at those who masterminded the attack on their servicemen, and that it is very difficult for the administration to back down now. But is not it also true, and as important, that America's proclaimed first goal is to bring peace to Lebanon and the whole area? How could the Americans possibly perceive such form of retaliation that would bring their

purpose closer to realisation? If there is a way, we definitely know not a thing about it; nor will it ever do, it seems.

Apart from the risks of a possible U.S.-Soviet confrontation over a direct U.S.-Syrian clash, and from further aggravating and already inflammable situation in Lebanon and the region, Washington cannot possibly think that by destroying Syrian-supplied rocket launchers in and around Beirut or any other target, it could protect better the Marines stationed around the airport. For a pre-emptive attack such as this could strengthen, rather than weaken, the resove of the anti-American forces in Lebanon and elsewhere.

The U.S. may decide, somehow, that the inter-Arab fighting in Tripoli affords it a good chance to strike down south more easily. But that would be lopsided logic, if the American leaders cared to take another look at the situation, and assess properly what Syria stands to gain, over 'Arafat and the rest of Arab moderates, from direct U.S. military intervention in Lebanon.

In the end, however, nothing could protect American lives and interests more than a strong U.S. resolve, to be followed by practical steps, to remove the root cause of all problems in Lebanon, namely the Israeli presence there. Revenge is something of the past, we would have thought; besides, it could serve only a doomed purpose, if that is what the American want or do not want to hear.

King Receives Sierra Leone Foreign Minister

JN071652 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Amman —His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon the minister of foreign affairs of Sierra Leone, Dr Abdulai Conteh, who conveyed to his mmajesty a message from the president of Sierra Leone. The foreign minister and the chairman of the board of directors and general director of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, attended the meeting.

Talks With Al-Qasim

JN081547 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim today discussed with Dr Abdulai Conteh, foreign minister of Sierra Leone, a number of international issues concentrating on the Middle East problem, and particularly the recent developments in the Palestine question, Arab-African relations, and Israel's attempts to undermine Arab-African solidarity and coordination in all fields. The two ministers expressed great anxiety over the current events in north Lebanon and hoped that the fighting would be immediately halted. They affirmed support for the Palestinian legitimacy, represented by the PLO. They also expressed hope that the conflicting sides in Lebanon would reach a solution that preserves Lebanon's legitimacy, freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. They called for the need to pursue efforts to halt the Iraqi-Iranian fighting and to find a peaceful settlement to this conflict. The two ministers expressed delight over the development of relations between Jordan and Sierra Leone, and looked forward toward to promoting these relations to serve the interests of the two friendly countries and peoples.

Crown Prince Leaves for Atlanta Symposium

JN050932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan left Amman this morning for Atlanta, Georgia to attend a symposium held by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter on the current situation in the Middle East. A number of Arab officials will attend the symposium.

Meets With Former Presidents

JN081346 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Atlanta — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan met with former U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford at a working breakfast in Atlanta, Georgia this morning. They reviewed the recent developments in the Middle East situation. The meeting was attended by a number of former senior U.S. officials and those specialized in the Middle East problem who are participating in a conference on the Palestine question which is currently being held at the President Carter Center at Emory University. A select group of specialized persons in this field is participating in this conference.

Al-Jumayyil Plans To Visit Western, Arab States

NC082038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has asked U.S. Ambassador in Beirut [Reginald] Bartholomew to contact the U.S. Administration to set a date as soon as possible for him to visit Washington and to meet with U.S. President Reagan and a number of U.S. Administration officials. President al-Jumayyil made this request when he received the U.S. ambassador at B'abda Palace in the presence of Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. President al-Jumayyil and Ambassador Bartholemew reviewed the results of the National Dialogue Conference, which convened in Geneva last week. They also discussed Lebanese-U.S. relations and the current situation. Informed sources have said that President al-Jumayyil will contact a number of Western and Arab states' ambassadors with a view to visiting these states to meet their leaders, discuss the Lebanese issue, and ensure the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanese territory. The president will ask these ambassadors to urgently set dates for his expected visits. No official date has yet been set pending the conclusion of the current diplomatic contacts.

Wadi' Haddad Reply to Syria on May Accord

NC081231 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] President al-Jumayyil's Adviser Dr Wadi' Haddad has replied to a (?letter) by Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs. He said every country has full rights to conclude agreements with other countries. He said Lebanon alone will decide what security measures it needs.

Security Committee 8 Nov Meeting Canceled

NC081903 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee did not hold its scheduled meeting today because National Salvation Front representative Wahbi Abu Fa'ur was absent.

Staff Colonel Jean Nasif, the Army representative in the committee, arrived at the venue while Amal Movement representative Dr Ayyub Humayyid and Lebanese Front representative Jean Ghanim arrived at a place close to the venue, waiting for the National Salvation Front representative to arrive so that all of them would go together to the venue. Meanwhile, National Salvation Front representative Wahbi Abu Fa'ur informed the committee, through an official in the Progressive Socialist Party in Beirut, that he regarded today's committee meeting as suspended and that the Amal representative would convey the front's official stand to the committee. At 1300, the Amal Movement representative reported that the National Salvation Front representative could not come to the venue because of sniper fire and shelling on the road he was taking. The Army representative then left the commitee headquarters. It is pointed out that security reports have not mentioned cease-fire violations in the mountain. The committee is scheduled to hold another meeting at 1030 tomorrow.

November 9 Cease-Fire Arranged

NC091133 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] A security source has just announced that the Army positions in 'Aytat have been subjected to rocket and mortar shells from the gunmen's positions opposite 'Aytat since 1230. The Army fired back to silence the sources of fire. Moreover, the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb have been coming under artillery shelling from Junblattite positions in Baysur and the western quarter since 1245. An all-embracing cease-fire agreement has been reached by the Security Arrangements Committee affecting the various mountain combat axes. The agreement will in principle come into effect at 1315.

Amal's Birri Interviewed by Paris Paper

PM071506 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 3 Nov 83 p 13

[Interview with Amal leader Nabih Birri by Dominique Lagarde in Geneva — date not given]

[Text] *LE QUOTIDIEN:* Why do you oppose the 17 May Israeli-Lebanese agreement?

Nabih Birri: I was opposed to the idea of a dialogue with Israel from the start, because accepting dialogue meant giving Israel something. But, above all, that agreement places a series of conditions on the Israeli withdrawal, in particular Syrian withdrawal but also Palestinian withdrawal and the return of the Israeli prisoners, including those held by Ahmad Jibril. Lebanon has no control over these factors. I myself asked Khaddam (the Syrian foreign minister) whether the Syrians would agree to withdraw if the agreement was maintained and he said no. So why keep an agreement which gives us nothing and takes everything from us. No businessman would accept such a contract.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Do you think that the Americans are prepared to change their position?

Nabih Birri: The Americans are above all playing for time. They want us to provide a government of national union. But I will not accept such a government if there is not first a real national reconciliation.

There is an Arab proverb which says that the person who placed the donkey in the minaret must get it down again. It is the Americans who have placed us in our present situation with that agreement. Last year, shortly after the war, I was in the United States and the Americans promised me that Lebanon would be liberated before the end of the year, by way of a Christmas present.

It was Peace for Galilee which served as a pretext for the Israeli invasion. But now there is not a single armed Palestinian south of Sawfar. For my part, I have repeatedly said that I will not accept the return of any armed Palestinian to the south. And, after national reconciliation, I am prepared to hand over the security of every village in the south to a national guard under the control of the Lebanese Army to protect them from any

foreign incursion, be it Palestinian or Israeli. We have held the southern suburb of Beirut for several months. Not one Palestinian fighter has returned there, because I will not allow it.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Is that agreement the central point of the negotiations here in Geneva?

Nabih Birri: Not just that. For 3 years we have been trying to define Lebanon's identity. We need a precise and far-reaching dialogue to rebuild a new Lebanon. The 1943 pact is dead, and it is that pact which has destroyed Lebanon. We must eliminate any sectarianism. I have already paid the price of a medieval Lebanon. I want a new Lebanon in which democracy and human rights prevail.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Are you in favor of the Multinational Force remaining?

Nabih Birri: Yes. The only thing I asked of the Americans following the racist accusations made by them against Amal's Shi'ites after the two Beirut attacks is to leave the southern suburb and hand it over to the Italians or British. I repeated that to Richard Fairbanks yesterday, and if the Americans refuse I will ask them to leave Lebanon.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Are you afraid of American reprisals against the Shi'ite districts in Beirut's southern suburb?

Nabih Birri: I advise them not to take reprisals.

Haddad on Strike, Closed Entry Issue in South

JN081243 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Nov 83

["Text" of statement made by "free Lebanon" Commander Major Sa'd Haddad on 8 November 1983 — read by announcer]

[Text] First, I promised you yesterday, that we are sincerely working to help our citizens alleviate their suffering in all areas — especially those issues related to the entry points and the government departments — by using our influence and depending on our Israeli brothers' love and appreciation for us on all levels. We seek to acheive this without creating an uproar, as those who claim that they represent the people in Lebanon usually do for the sake of outbiddings and in order to win votes for elections.

Major Haddad added: Thank God, we started to solve the problem of the closed entry points as of this morning, on the condition that the citizens must appreciate these actions and cooperate with us in order to confront the acts of sabotage and those who perpetrate them, whether from inside or outside. Regarding the second issue, namely the government building and the official departments in Sidon, I reassure you that I am seriously taking care of it. I bring you the good news that I will not only regain one part of that building, but the entire building so that it can resume its pre-1975 activity. God willing, this will be achieved within 1 or 2 weeks.

In light of the aforementioned, I again call on every citizen in free Lebanon to devote his time to his usual constructive work, because we are working day and night to achieve your interests, given that I am one of you. I also call on you notto listen to the instigators and rumormongers, whether they come from inside or outside free Lebanon and whether they are clergymen or politicians, because they represent the real devil on Lebanon's sacred territory. They seek only destruction for southern Lebanon and its sons.

Second, I ask those who called and are calling for strikes and uprisings in southern Lebanon to stop these cheap outbiddings. Instead of devoting this Lebanese day to the south, let them devote it to Al-Biqa', which has already been annexed to Syria in wake of the massacres that have taken place there. Let them devote it to the north, the majority of which has been annexed to Syria. Only a small part of the northern capital of Tripoli has remained. This part has not yet been destroyed or annexed. This will take place within the next 2 days. Or, let them devote this day to what has been and is taking place in the mountain in terms of tragedies and catastrophes.

It would be better for this day to be devoted to the southern suburb. The authority spares no effort there, using its remaining Army and heavy weapons to purge this suburb of the Shi'ite element in order to lay the foundations for a small emirate in Lebanon similar to that of Monaco. Maj Haddad concluded: How nice it would be if the people would become aware of these facts and then act in accordance with them.

Israelis Open Al-Awwali Bridge to Pedestrians

NC081109 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] A security source indicated a short while ago that at 0915 the Israeli forces opened the Al-Awwali Bridge, allowing citizens to cross the bridge in both directions. The bridge is opened to pedestrians only. The Israelis also allowed soldiers to pass from Sidon to Beirut with their vehicles.

U.S. Marines Vacate Faculty of Sciences Area

NC091157 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] At 1230 today, an explosion occurred in a building near a bridge in the Faculty of Sciences area. Ambulances were seen moving the casualties. At 0700, three U.S. F-14 planes overflew the coast while the U.S. warship *New Jersey* was patrolling the opposite shore. A Marines spokesman has said that the evacuation of the Marines' position in the Faculty of Sciences is part of the security measures which were adopted after the explosion at the headquarters of the U.S. contingent and that the position has been handed over to the Lebanese Army.

He added that the U.S. contingent has reduced the number of its elements in some of the capital's axes, which it turned over to the security forces.

Damascus Radio on Syrian Determination To Fight

JN081449 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Syria is a decisionmaker, just as it is the upholder of a firm principle and creed. Syria also has the willpower, capabilities, and strength to bolster this willpower. Therefore, U.S. threats will not frighten it and the warnings coming from the White House will not affect its decision and willpower to be the wall protecting the Arab nation from U.S. domination and Zionist arrogance.

We in Syria do not admit that the U.S. option is stronger, although we do admit that it is a superpower. We also do not admit that the U.S. role in the region cannot be answered and opposed, although we do admit that the United States possesses roving fleets and unlimited military capabilities. Our people, who hear the United States' daily growing threats, are determined to safeguard their objectives and to reassure the Arab nation about its future against all enemies.

If the United States believes that the Grenada pattern can be applied and repeated in the Middle East, and against Syria in particular, then undoubtedly the U.S. Administration either ignores the facts, or feigns ignorance of the established facts. Syria has the capability, strength, determination, and popular support on the Arab and international levels to put its objectives to the test and to confirm to the whole world that the U.S. defeat in Vietnam may be repeated on Arab land.

The United States has asked Syria to exercise self-restraint, but at the same, it has not ruled out the possibility of the U.S. forces dealing a quick, harsh blow to the Syrian forces in Lebanon. The United States seems to have forgotten that Syria has not mobilized its reservists to invade the United States, but to prove to the whole world that those who send their forces tens of thousands of miles away from their borders are the aggressors. When the United States asks us to exercise self-restraint, it wants us to accept its wish and tutelage. It is as if Reagan's wish is divine. Syria is being asked to acknowledge the fact that Reagan's decision is sacred and that his aggression must not be opposed or confronted.

The Pentagon circles and all the planners of U.S. strategy have forgotten that Syria has decided to build its strategy on the basis of the balance of power and the changing of old concepts. Syria does this in order to become a bulwark [thiqalan] bolstering the interests of the Arab nation by not only facing aggression, but also liberating the usurped Arab soil and giving the world a new example in determination and resolution after teaching the aggressors harsh lessons — lest they have forgotten their bitterness on Vietnamese land.

The former Zionist army General Aharon Yariv has said that Israel must think twice before taking any action, and former U.S. Presidents Carter and Ford have strongly warned the U.S. Administration that aggression against Syria might reverse all expectations and make the U.S. force a secondary one with limited effect. If President Reagan has ignored the Arab nation's existence and announced that the alliance with Israel is the United States' guarantee and one of its striking forces, then this should prompt the Arab masses to speak up and face their enemies all at once and without hesitation.

The U.S. and Israeli feeling of reassurance on the basis of the abnormal situation on the Arab surface will not give the U.S. decisionmaker the ability to influence developments. Syria has taken upon itself the task of resurrecting Arab ability and exploding the energies of a nation which is awaiting the event in order to create its new history.

Perhaps, the Americans believe that massing their fleets and spreading their international terrorism will frighten Syria or undermine its willpower. But they have either miscalculated or ignored the facts. The Syrian reply will not stop at the limits of a battle whose dimensions and results may be decided by the United States and Israel, because war is war, and the difference between us and the aggressors is that we have a just cause in defending our land and nation with our blood. We will prove to the world that our people will confirm to the United States and Israel that Syrian cannot be swallowed up.

Damascus on Determination To Resist Aggression

JN081750 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 8 Nov 83

[From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Syria is in the trench of confrontation against the U.S.-Israeli aggression. Determined and with much willpower, Syria has made its decision to confront the enemy despite the strength and destructive power of the forces of aggression. The United States and its allies on the ground will find out that Syria cannot be swallowed up. On this subject, colleague Muhammad Muhalla writes this analysis:

Syria is not as easy as the United States and its NATO allies and Israel think. The Arab reply will be more powerful than the aggression. Therefore, the U.S.-Israeli-NATO concentration will be faced with a power that it had not expected before, especially since the circumstances are not as Washington wants them to be and the development of events is not in Washington's favor and does not serve it splans.

Therefore, the United States must now understand — and it understands very well, although it pretends to ignore the fact that its savage attack on the Arab region, that is, against Lebanon and Syria, is a prelude to swallowing up the region and establishing total domination over it — the real situation in the region. This situation confirms that the circumstances of the tripartite aggression against Egypt in 1956 do not and cannot apply to Syria in 1983. This is because Syria has the willpower to reply to any military action. Syria also has the means to respond more powerfully and to make the Mediterracan Sea and the Arab arena, on which the forces of aggression exist, a theater for the greatest battles. Washington must also understand that the Syrian Arab people are all resolved and determined to take up arms and stand behdind their Armed Forces, giving them all support in their confrontation and providing them with the means

of success; faith in the Arab people's just cause and the determination of Syria and all Arabs from the Arab East to the Arab Maghrib to continue the struggle, resist the aggressor, and confront the U.S. most aggressive war machine.

If by this erroneous concept the United States wants to impose its domination on the Arab region by massing its fleets, the results will be contrary to what it expected. Its forces will not be on a picnic. This is because Syria — Army, people, and leadership — has the willpower to confront the enemy and knows how to make the right decision. The Syrian Arab people are prepared to face the challenge regardless of the sacrifices.

Envoy to UK Interviewed on Possible U.S. Attack

LD082106 London ITV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Interview of Dr Luay-Allah Haydar, Syrian ambassador to the United Kingdom, by Trevor MacDonald, ITV television correspondent, at the ITV studios in London on 8 November; time of interview not given — recorded]

[Text] [MacDonald] Mr Ambassador, is your country preparing for an attack by the Americans?

[Haydar] We have all the signs and the indications that the Americans are up to something. They are in this buildup of the American huge naval and air force. The mobilization of the Israeli forces as well is indicative of a certain attack, or operation, whatsoever you may call it, to be undertaken by the parties, the Americans and the Israelis, against Syria.

[MacDonald] And what would Syria's response be to this?

[Haydar] Just like any country's response: Whenever any country is attacked, it has to defend itself. We know very well how to defend our country and our people.

[MacDonald] Will you enlist Soviet assistance in defending your country against an American attack?

[Haydar] All I can tell you that we are not alone. Syria has lots of friends, brothers, on whom we rely in times of crisis. And if the United States commits an aggression against Syria, then I Believe that this conflict would be a largescale one.

[MacDonald] You are talking, Mr Ambassador, about the possible involvement, are you not, of the Soviet Union?

[Haydar] I am talking about the help which we are supposed to get from our brothers and friends all over the world.

[MacDonald] But that includes the Soviet Union?

[Haydar] The Soviet Union is a friendly country to Syria.

[MacDonald] What do you think the broader consequences of such an attack would be? You say the consequence could be grave. Could you spell those out?

[Haydar] If such an aggression takes place by a superpower like the United States in coordination and full collaboration with the Israelis against our country, and given the international circumstances in the world we live in, I don't believe that this confrontation, or conflict, could be confined to a certain area in the Middle East. It could widely... It's very probable that it could spread to some other areas, and therefore it might be a threat to international security as a whole.

[MacDonald] President Reagan talks about this as retaliatory action for what the Syrians have so far done. Did your country, was your country, involved in any way in the killing of American marines in Beirut?

[Haydar] I wonder how many times we have to repeat that we have nothing to do with this bombing; we have never had a hand in it or knew about it before it took place. This is a pretext, this is just a mere pretext to achieve some other objectives which has nothing to do with the bombing of the Marines.

[MacDonald] Your country also occupies large parts of Lebanon. You are well down in the Al-Biqa' valley and in places like Ba'albeck. Surely you must also bear part of the responsibility for the fundamental instability which has been caused in lebanon, which is the cause of all the problems there.

[Haydar] The part of the responsibility which we bear in Lebanon is our responsibility to make sure that Lebanon is independent, free, and sovereign — an Arab country which doesn't pose any threat to the Syrian security and to the interests of the Syrian people. That's what we are trying to achieve in Lebanon. As soon as we are convinced — and we will be convinced whenever or as soon as the Israelis leave unconditionally Lebanon — that we are secure, and in that case we can relax, and [as heard] our troops will have nothing to do with Lebanon.

Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi Telephones Al-Asad

JN091024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] In Damascus, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held a telephone contact with President Hafiz al-'Asad last night. The talks dealt with the U.S. concentrations and the aggression which the United States is planning against Syria. Col al-Qadhdhafi stressed that Libya will directly participate in the war at Syria's side when any aggression starts against Syria.

Communist Party Calls for Confronting U.S. Plans

JN082030 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Syrian Communist Party has called for unifying all forces and efforts and for closing the ranks in one front to confront the U.S. and Zionist threats that are being directed at Syria, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and the Palestinian revolution. In a statement issued today, the party condemned U.S. threats against Syria, affirming that the U.S. military concentrations off the Lebanese coast are meant to deal a blow to the forces of steadfastness that stand in the face of its designs

in the region. In its statement, the party also asserted that Syria will not yield to the U.S. imperialist's orders and threats, and that Syria will resist them violently and strongly.

Al-Asad Receives Algerian President's Message

JN072240 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] At 1830 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Salih Boujoumaa, Algerian ambassador in Damascus. The ambassador conveyed to the president a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on the situation in the region.

Ash-Shar' on Syrian Withdrawal at Atlanta Seminar

JN081502 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Atlanta, Georgia — Faruq ash-Shar', Minister of state for foreign affairs, affirmed in Atlanta, Georgia last night that the Syrian forces will withdraw from Lebanon if the Israeli occupation forces withdraw — provided that this withdrawal is not linked to any conditions that might threaten Syria's security. At a seminar on the Middle East organized by former U.S. Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, Ash-Shar' said that Syria does not intend to turn Lebanon into a Syrian satellite. He also denied that the presence of the Syrian forces causes a delay in the Israeli withdrawal.

Ash-Shar' was responding to accusations by former U.S. envoy to the Middle East Joseph Sisco, who is participating in the seminar. He also said: If Sisco believes that the Syrian forces are an obstacle to Israel withdrawal, then why does the United States not put us in an embarassing position by asking the Israelis to withdraw first to see whether we remain or withdraw immediately. Asked by former President Ford if Syria is ready to withdraw within a short time after the Israeli withdrawal takes place first, Ash-Shar' replied positively and said: The withdrawal will be conditioned. Israel's withdrawal should not be linked to any preconditions that threaten Syria's security and safety.

Ash-Shar' also explained that the agreement reached between Lebanese and Israeli negotiators with the assistance of the United States includes several terms that will threaten Syrian and Lebanese independence.

Reportage on GCC Mediation Role in Damascus

Kuwaiti, Qatari Officials Arrive

JN081426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Damascus this afternoon.

Kuwaiti, Qatari Ministers' Statements

JN081849 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; and Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of foreign affairs arrived in Damascus this afternoon. In a statement to SANA, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir said: The Arab kings and heads of state participating in the GCC meeting in Qatar have agreed to form a delegation, and they have held contacts with some Arab states, namely, Tunisia and Algeria, to hold a meeting with the Syrian brothers here in order to help resolve the existing problem between the comrades-in-arm in Palestine and to find appropriate solutions to halt the current fighting among the Palestinians.

Al-Jabir also said: In fact, we are concerned over the threats that are being directed at Syria by our enemy, represented by the United States and Israel, and their majesties and highnesses are very interested in seeking contact with an explanation from the brothers in Syria. He concluded: As our brothers in Syria know, there are ties among ourselves, Damascus and the Arab world in general; namely, the Collective Arab Defense Pact, which considers any threat to any Arab country as a threat to our countries as a whole.

Meet Khaddam

LD081823 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Damascus, 8 Nov (SPA) — A delegation of foreign ministers of GCC states arrived in Damascus this evening.

Immediately on arrival the delegation met the Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. After the meeting the delegation proceeded to the residence of the Kuwaiti Ambassador to Damascus, where an expanded meeting was held attended by the Ambassadors of Algeria, Tunisia, Qatar and Kuwait to Damascus. Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman, and a number of members of the PLO Executive Committee who are currently in Damascus, are expected to attend this expanded meeting later.

Refusal To Receive Team Denied

JN081638 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti foreign minister; and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Damascus this afternoon. They were met on arrival at the airport by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. An official Qatari source said that the two ministers have been entrusted by the GCC leaders with a reconciliation mission to end the battles between the Palestinians in northern Lebanon.

In Damascus, an official source has announced that the reports that Syria has refused to receive an Arab mission are part of the lies spread by Yasir 'Arafat and his followers.

Meet With Al-Asad

JN090653 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has emphasized that Syria is eager not to see the Palestinian brothers fight among themselves and that Syria is eager to help them overcome their differences in the interest of the Palestinian Arab people's cause. The president made these remarks when he met with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, yesterday evening. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Kuwaiti and Qatari ambassadors attended the meeting.

Talks dealt with the situation in the region and the events taking place in northern Lebanon among the Palestinian brothers. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and Shaykh Ahmad Ibn Sayf AL Thani briefed the president on the results of the contacts held with the Palestinian sides and the efforts being exerted to halt Palestinian fratricide.

KUNA on Mediation in PLO Fighting

LD090344 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2345 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Damascus, 8 Nov — A high-level Gulf mediation delegation tonight had a meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad as part of efforts being made by the GCC states to put an end to the fighting between Palestinians in north Lebanon.

The GCC summit, which is currently meeting in Doha, had sent Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jubir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Ahmad ibn Sayfr Al-Thani, Qatari foreign minister, to Damascus to hold talks with Syrian officials aimed at stopping the fighting between supporters of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and his opponents in Tripoli, north Lebanon. It was officially announced that the talks at the meeting between the Gulf delegation and President al-Asad dealt with the situation in the region and the current incidents between the brother Palestinians in north Lebanon. No further information is available about what had been discussed at the meeting which took place in the presence of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Kuwaiti and Qatari ambassadors.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, and Qatari Foreign Minister Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani left Damascus tonight.

Earlier, the Gulf delegation met with Mr Khaddam and discussed with him the same subject. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud Al-faysal joined the delegation.

The three Gulf foreign ministers also had a meeting with the mediation committee which was formed by the PLO Executive Committee in an attempt to end the conflict inside Fatah which broke out about 6 months ago. The mediation committee includes six members of the PLO executive Committee: 'Abd al-Muhsin abu Mayzar, Talal Naji, Muhammad khalifah, Yasir 'Abd Rabbu, Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani and Ahmad al- Yamani. The committee is headed by PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum. The meeting was also attended by the PLO Executive Committee Secretary Ahmad Zahwi an-Nashashibi. The meeting later was also joined by the two political leaders of the opposition movement in Fatah: Nimr Salih — Abu Salih — and Samih Abu Kuwayk — Qadri — and the two military leaders, Colonel Musa al-'Umlah — Abu Khalid — and Colonel Sa'id Musa — Abu Musa. It was announced that at the meeting the situation in the Palestinian arena and ways of solving the current conflict between the warring sides had been discussed. No detailed information was available about what had been discussed.

The Saudi minister remained behind in Damascus. Official sources said he will hold talks with President Hafiz al-Asad on Wednesday.

It is expected that Shaykh as-Sabah and the Qatari minister will present a report to the morning session of the GCC leaders in Doha tomorrow on the results of their talks.

It is also expected that Algerian Information Minister Boualem Bessaiah and Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi will join Saudi Prince Saud within the framework of intensive efforts to end the bloody fighting between the Palestinians in Tripoli which is continuing unabated since Thursday. No further information has become available at present about the Gulf mediation task.

Al-Asad Receives PDRY Official, Message

JN081303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] At 1345 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, PDRY Political Bureau member and YSP secretary. 'Abd 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, PDRY ambassador in Damascus, Attended the meeting. 'Abd al-Qadir conveyed a message to President al-Asad from PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad dealing with the developments in the region and what is taking place in the Palestinian arena. The president asked him to convey his message of reply.

Al-Ahmar Confers With Official

JN081537 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, PDRY Political Bureau member and YSP secretary. The talks revolved around fraternal relations between the two parties and the joint task of the two parties in mass mobilization agaisnt U.S.-Zionist designs on the Arab nation.

They also reviewed the latest developments in the Lebanese arena in particular, and in the Arab arena in general. They discussed mobilization process and fleet massing by the United States and Israel to launch an expected aggression against Syria. Al-Ahmar also explained the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party's position toward the events and the current developments, asserting Syrian peo-

ple's determination under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad to confront the aggression and defend the Arab nation.

'Abd al-Qadir also praised Syria's steadfast role and confrontation of the aggression, affirming that the PDRY supports Syria with all its potentials in order to confront the aggression and defend the legitimate rights.

Official Departs 8 Nov

JN081657 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, PDRY Political Bureau member and YSP secretary, left Damascus this afternoon after a 2-day visit to Syria during which he conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

YSP Official Arrives on Short Visit 7 November

JN071718 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus —'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, YSP Political Bureau member and Central Committee secretary, arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a short visit. Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member; a number of the National Command Foreign Bureau members; the PDRY ambassador in Damascus; and the PDRY Embassy staff received 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir at Damascus International Airport.

Damascus TV Raps 'Arafat, 'Jordanian Regime'

JN082132 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1850 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Gentlemen, some people, prompted by personal motives to achieve an unjust objective, may try to distort or tamper with the historical facts and use all the means in their power to deceive and delude others by the new picture which they portray for these facts. We are saying this because there are in the Arab arena today regimes and groups that are trying to distort the recent most well-known historical facts without being restrained by their conscience or by the slightest awareness of the enormous responsibility resulting from their actions.

The historical fact that they want to distort is Syria's relationship with the Palestinian revolution and its organic link with this revolution since its outbreak against the racist Zionist enemy. The groups and regimes that have chosen to fumble about in the dilemma of distortion and forgery are, as you know and as every individual throughout our great homeland knows, Yasir 'Arafat's group and those rallying around him, such as his scattered forces and the regimes that are hostile to their peoples and which have been nurtured on plotting against the Arab nation and its crucial issues.

Of course, it is no secret to anyone that the question of Palestine and the Palestinian Arab people is the issue of Syria and its people. Syria has fought the most honorable and toughest battles and sacrificed the blood of its sons for the victory of the Palestine question so that the Palestinian people will regain their usurped rights and occupied national soil. Syria has adopted this stand out of the strong faith that its position in the heart of the Arab homeland, its sons' long history in fighting imperialism and the imperialists, and its direct confrontation with the Zionist enemy make it inevitable for it to be foremost in making sacrifices and being firmly committed to defending Arabism in general and Palestinian rights in particular. This is how Syria has been and how it will be. Why not, when God has bestowed to Syria a leader who, when he spoke, it was for the sake of Palestine, when he made a decision it was in the interest of Palestine, and when he adopted a stand it was on the basis of the Palestine question.

What is strange is for some people to come forth and accuse Syria of being behind the fighting in northern Lebanon and Tripoli and of having thrown its forces and arms into this Palestinian infighting. Of course, Syria need not go out of its way to legally defend itself or answer the fabrications and lies. Our forces, which have not participated and will not participate in the fighting in northern Lebanon and Tripoli, have been trained and equipped to fight the Zionist enemy. They will only be used in facing the enemies of the Palestine question and the crucial issues. Therefore, what has been happening since the declaration of the revolutionary upheaval inside the Fatah movement is no more than an orchestrated campaign whose aim is to distort Syria's stand and continuous historical struggle to liberate the land and regain the rights. The Palestinian fighters in northern Lebanon known the motives and objectives of this campaign. They also know Syria's real position on the dispute within the Fatah movement. Nevertheless, to justify his bankruptcy vis-a-vis the Palestinian and the wide rejection of his political line and despotic leadership, and to cover up his miserable failure in solving problems inside the Palestinian groups, Yasir 'Arafat has tried to involve Syria in the current fighting, thinking this would make our Arab people in general, and our Palestinian people in particular, forget the crimes 'Arafat has committed against Palestine, Syria, and the Arab nation.

It may be useful to ask here: Why has 'Arafat come to Tripoli and begun the Palestinian infighting and bloodshed? Why has he drawn the funds allocated for the support of the Palestinian revolution and brought them to Tripoli? Why has 'Arafat denied the heroic role played by Syria and its Armed Forces in confronting the savage Israeli invasion of Lebanon and in honorably defending Beirut and the Lebanese and Palestinian Arab people? Why has Yasir 'Arafat opened his mouth to attack Syria at this particular time when the U.S. imperialist and Zionist forces are making preparations to deal a military blow to Syria? There are many questions, and the answers confirm that Yasir 'Arafat and his clique and the forces supporting him, as well as those behind the imperialsit-Zionist plan, are now working for one objective; namely, to remove the main obstacle that is hampering the plots against the Palestine question and confronting all capitulatory solutions.

There is another matter which we must point out and warn our Arab people against; this is the position of the Jordanian regime.

Whoever listens to the statements reiterated by the trumpets of that regime and the stands they announce in support of 'Arafat and against Syria will become more convinced that the Jordanian regime converges with Israel, world Zionism, U.S. imperialism, and other quarters hostile to the rights of the Palestinian people. Our people know and will not forget that the Jordanian regime had cooperated with the Zionists to plot against Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Arab nation. If that regime is now cooperating with Yasir 'Arafat and defending him, it is because all these forces have one common objective; namely, to harm Syria and to try to undermine its firm principled stand and weaken its ability to confront their plans, which have been charted for them by imperialist and Zionist circles.

These circles wanted the Jordanian regime, and the regime itself has accepted, to become the final link in the chain of conspiracy. Where can they find anything better than that regime, which has antagonized the Palestinian revolution and fedayeen action overtly and covertly, prevented the presence of armed Palestinian groups in Jordan, banned the use of Jordanian territory as a base for action in the occupied territories, used agents known for their hostility to the Palestinian revolution to defend Yasir 'Arafat and attacked Syria and its stands and involved its name in what is taking place between the Palestinians in Lebanon? 'Arafat and his clique, the Jordanian regime, and the owners of the rabid trumpets who are allied with them are essentially quarters which are at least sympathetic with Israel, and, at the most, conspiring against the cause of the Palestinian people. They are not outside the vital field of work of the propaganda trumpets of Western Europe in particular, and the West in general.

Syria, while reaffirming that it has nothing to do with the current fighting between the Palestinian brothers, states this fact within the framework of its firm principles and historical struggle which is known to every Palestinian citizen and which shows that Syria has been, and still is, on the side of the Palestinian revolution. Syria is sacrificing all its possessions for the triumph of this revolution and for foiling all intrigues and hostile conspiratorial plans. Whoever is the cause of spilling the blood of fighters and revolutionaries and shedding the tears of parents and sons in issues that do not serve the cause, will not be pardoned by the people and history.

TISHRIN Attacks Jordan, Blames 'Arafat for Battles

JN090834 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "When Israel and the Jordanian Regime Are Zealous for 'Arafat," today's *TISHRIN* editorial says: Today there is a deliberate attempt to involve Syria in the regrettable, painful incidents in Tripoli which were sparked off by 'Arafat and his rancorous clique. This is done because Syria refused to be dragged into the game of Palestinian fratricide and internal liquidation of the question as designed by 'Arafat and those standing behind him; because Syria realized right right from the beginning that 'Arafat's rejection of national dialogue, of the demands of the Fatah revolutionary uprising, and of the Palestinian committees' proposals and recommendations concealed a premeditated plan drawn up in coordination with the Jordanian regime and Israel to escalate fratricide in order to harm the Palestinian revolution and its strugglers and lead them under force and intimidation to the Reagan camp; and because Syria maintained its firm, principled stand which supports the Palestinian question, confronts its enemies, upholds its rights, and rejects the march of capitulation.

The Jordanian regime is devoting its official news media to attack Syria, and mobilizing some Palestinian intelligence agents who are well known for their historical enmity of the Palestinian revolution. Israel is doing the same in an exposed attempt to turn matters topsy-turvy and distort Syria's genuine stand.

The paper adds: We are entitled to have a long pause at this sudden zeal for 'Arafat as displayed by the Jordanian regime and Israel at a time when the United States is massing a naval strike force in the eastern Mediterranean, at a time when Israel is calling up its reservists, and at a time when the world politicians and observers warn of an imminent heavy blow to Syria. The Jordanian regime has a long record abounding with plotting against the Palestinian people and their national rights. The simplest Arab citizen anywhere in the Arab homeland knows about this record. We will not talk about this regime's treasonous acts which are well known to all, for about its meetings with the Zionist officials — meetings that are as old as the Zionist state and that are continuing to this hour. The Zionist officials themselves disclosed these meetings in their memorandums and statements. We will not talk about the massacres of the Black September or about this regime's abstention from participating in the glorious October war.

Only a few months ago the Jordanian regime tried by means of 'Arafat to drag the PLO and the Palestinian revolution to the path of capitulation by adopting Reagan's liquidatory plan which was rejected by the nation's masses and their revolutionary and national forces. The Jordanian regime is still depriving any Palestinian faction of presence in Jordan and is preventing any Palestinian action in the direction of the occupied territories. It does not even allow the Palestinian fedayeen to be trained in fighting. It protects the Israeli Army lines and arrests anyone who tries to reach the confrontation line with the enemy as is admitted by Israel itself. It is thus acting exactly like Sa'd Haddad in southern Lebanon. This regime did not hesitate to hand the Palestinian strugglers to the Zionist executioners.

The Jordanian regime did all this and is still doing it. Moreover, the resistance factions revealed all this in their statements. Nevertheless, today we find a denominator combining 'Arafat, the Jordanian regime, and Israel. It is the denominator of grudge and slander against Syria with the aim of covering up the anticipated aggression being prepared by the United States and Israel. 'Arafat explodes the situation in Tripoli and accuses Syria; the Jordanian regime moves its agents; and Israel also moves its agents in the Village Leagues, parties, and quarters linked with world Zionism. The aim is to instigate against Syria and cover up 'Arafat's deviation. Why 'Arafat? Because he yielded to the defeatist trend and got involved in the attempt to shed Palestinian blood, split the PLO and Fatah, destroy the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese national cohesion, and strike at the Palestinian Fatah strugglers who refused to bargain over rights, rejected any temp-

tation or deviation, and adhered to principles and charters. Why Syria? Because Syria is leading the confrontation battle, repulsing the imperialist- Zionist schemes, and refusing to relinquish the Palestinian question and Palestinian soil. Syria refuses to stab the Palestinian struggle or be dragged into 'Arafat's treacherous game.

TISHRIN says: If those who are today shedding false tears for 'Arafat were really sincere to the Palestinian question — and they are certainly not —they would have worked to ensure the success of a democratic dialogue, and not to encourage 'Arafat to act rashly and reject internal reform and the Palestinian mediation committees' proposals. They should have worked to spare Palestinian blood instead of exploding the situation and then falsely shedding tears on the spilled blood. They should have been sincere to the Palestinians by defending their issue instead of plotting against it and instead of tempting 'Arafat into disavowing both the issue and the blood of all its innocent martyrs.

Concluding, the paper says: Syria cares for the Palestinian blood as much as it cares for itself. Syria has nothing at all to do with what has happened in Tripoli. The only one responsible for the battles and fratricide is 'Arafat and those who stand behind him. It was 'Arafat who began fratricide, rejected dialogue, and insisted on settling the difference by force. History will certainly not have mercy on those who plot against their peoples' causes.

Intelligence Unit Seals 'Arafat's Damascus Office

LD072124 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2025 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 7 Nov (KUNA) — The office of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, was sealed with red wax today and Ath-Thabitah al-Fida'yiah, the branch of military intelligence specializing in the affairs of Palestinian resistance organizations, has assumed guard. Ath-Thabitah collected all the weapons and placed them in rooms which were then closed and sealed with red wax and began guarding the building which adjoins the headquarters of the Syrian Council of Ministers in the center of Damascus. The pictures of 'Arafat on the internal walls and on the building's facade remain, and the staff moved to Office 23, which is in the same region, from which all weapons have been removed, and which Ath-Thabitah al-Fida'yiah has placed under its guard.

Further Reportage on GDR Official's Visit

Prime Minister Receives Kleiber

JN080845 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] At 1800 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Guenther Kleiber, GDR Council of Minister's deputy chairman. 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddura, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and the GDR ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Kleiber conveyed to Dr al-Kasm the greetings of Willi Stoph, GDR Council of Ministers' chairman. The talks dealt with relations of friendship and cooperation between the GDR and Syria which are developing in all spheres and achieving positive results to both friendly countries. Kleiber expressed his country's support for Syria in its steadfastness and struggle against the hostile imperialist and Zionist schemes. The prime minister expressed satisfaction with the results of the GDR-Syrian talks and the development of cooperation in all spheres. He also expressed appreciation for the GDR's stance which supports Syria's struggle.

At the end of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm asked Kleiber to convey his greetings to the GDR Council of Ministers chairman.

Holds Talks With Al-Asad

JN081522 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 8 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad today received Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo.

'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and GDR Ambassador in Damascus Dr Reinhard Escherich attended the meeting. Their talks dealt with the international situation, developments in Europe and the Middle East, and the means of bilateral cooperation.

Al-Asad affirmed Syria's determination to pursue the building process despite the comprehensive imperialist plans which aim at destroying Syria's internal situation and which distract it from proceeding with the building process. He added: We in Syria have decided to resist the imperialist attempts to subdue us and we are determined to foil imperialist and Zionist designs. We are also determined to stand against the imperialist ambitions regardless of the circumstances.

Al-Asad said: In resisting the ambitions of imperialism and Zionism, we depend on our people's enthusiasm and readiness to sacrifice in their struggle against them and also on the strength of our friends in the Socialist Bloc, foremost of which is the USSR, and all the forces in the world which are hostile to imperialism and racism.

Al-Asad added: Syria has no choice but to reject the imperialist attempts and plans to dominate the region regardless of the possibilities and circumstances.

During the meeting, Kleiber expressed satisfaction with the development of cooperation between the two countries and the results of his talks in Damascus. He demonstrated the delicate situation resulting from the United States proceeding with its plans to deploy nuclear missiles in West Europe.

Al-Asad expressed satisfaction for the two sides' achievements in the fields of bilateral cooperation. He noted the delicate circumstances resulting from U.S. imperialist plans to deploy missiles in the region and to impose hegemony on the Middle East.

Leaves Damascus 8 Nov

JN081656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and his accompanying delegation left Damascus this afternoon after a 4-day visit to Syria.

Italian Foreign Minister Departs 7 November

JN072242 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Damascus — At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti. Andreotti left Damascus this evening after a 2-day visit to Syria.

Khaddam Receives British Official 8 Nov

JN081529 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received Temple-Morris, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the British House of Commons [name and title as received], who is currently visiting Syria. The talks revolved around the current situation in the Middle East region.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Temple-Morris

JN082110 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi this evening received Temple-Morris, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the British House of Commons. During the meeting, the talks dealt with parliamentary issues within the framework of bilateral and international relations as well as the current circumstances in the Arab region. Temple-Morris expressed British and European understanding of the Middle East issues, and stressed Syria's principal role in the region and in any solution to the Middle East issue in general, and to the Lebanese issue in particular. He also said that during his meetings with Syrian officials, he sensed a clear understanding of the current issues in the region and of the events that are taking place both in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas. He also expressed his understanding of Syria's desire to achieve a Lebanese national accord. He affirmed that Syria has no interest in Lebanon except the full and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. The People's Assembly speaker thanked Temple-Morris for his positive positions toward the just Arab issues in the British House of Commons, in the IPU, and in other parliamentary circles.

Al-Kasm Congratulates USSR's Tikhonov on GOSR

JN071434 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 7 Nov (SANA) — In a cable to Nikolay Tikhonov, USSR Council of Ministers chairman, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm expressed congratulations on the Great October Socialist Revolution which has achieved progress and strength for the people of the USSR and support and strength for the world's struggling peoples. Dr al-Kasm noted the strong and bolstering relations between Syria and the USSR which have entrenched the solid bases of progressive Arab struggle. Concluding his cable, the prime minister wished the people of the USSR continued health, happiness, and increasing prosperity.

Az-Zu'bi Cables USSR Officials on Anniversary

JN081618 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 8 Nov (SANA) — On the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialst Revolution [GOSR], People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi sent a cable of congratulations to Comrade Ruben, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and a similar cable to Comrade Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Az-Zu'bi said: The GOSR has recorded the greatest historic change in the present century in the field of destroying the chains of imperialism and exploitation and in the field of liberating peoples. It also began a new era that moves toward the independence of peoples and nations as well as their equality and cooperation. He also added that the Soviet Union extends valuable assistance to our Arab people's struggle to enable them to confront and undermine plans of imperialist hegemony and Israel's expansionist and racist policy.

Az-Zu'bi also expressed the deep appreciation of the People's Assembly and the Syrian Arab people for the Soviet Union's struggle to maintain world peace and avert from mankind a nuclear war, and to stop the aggressions of the U.S. imperialists and its allies against the countries and the peoples that aspire to their independence and freedom.

Ba'th Party Delegation Leaves for Hanoi 8 Nov

JN081530 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus, 8 Nov (SANA) — An Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation led by Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the party's National Command, left Damascus for Hanoi today on a visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the invitation of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee.

Mashariqah Meets With Ba'thists in Latakia

JN061912 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Latakia — Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant regional secretary of the Ba'th Party; Tawfiq Salihah, head of the party's regional grouping; and Wahib Tannus, chairman of the regional higher education bureau, have met with the party cadres at the branches of Latakia and Tishrin University. At the beginning of the meeting, Comrade Mashariqah conveyed the greetings of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

secretary general of the Ba'th Party, to the party comrades at the forementioned branches and the masses in Latakia.

Comrade Mashariqah reviewed the most important and current political developments and the objectives of imperialism and Zionism in the Arab region. Mashariqah spoke about Syria's firm and principled stand in the face of the imperialist and Zionist designs. He stressed Syria's unlimited support for the Lebanese Nationalist forces and the Lebanese National Salvation Front to safeguard Lebanon's Arabism, unity, and territorial integrity, and to expel the invading enemy. Comrade Mashariqah pointed out the importance of the great victories that the national issue has achieved in Ash-Shuf and the mountain under the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party which has defeated the Phalangist Army despite the great support for the Phalangists by imperialism and the Zionist enemy. He said that through their steadfastness and sacrifices, they were capable of foiling the imperialist designs to partition Lebanon and to commit new crimes against the honorable citizens.

Comrade Mashariqah stressed that Syria — the revolution, the Ba'th Party, and Hafiz al-Asad's Syria — will continue to provide all the means of steadfastness to all fighters against the Zionist enemy. He stressed that what is taking place in the Palestinian arena is an uprising within the Fatah movement to correct the deviation, to keep the movement away from the positions of capitulation and liquidation of the Palestinian question, and to cut off the bridges with Zionism and the agents such as some Arab regimes which are panting after Camp David. At the end of the meeting, comrade members of the Ba'th Party Regional Command answered the questions of some comrades, stressing that our battle against the enemy is continuing. They said: We will not allow any force to harm our national and pan-Arab issues, foremost being the Palestinian question.

IDF Issues Call for Reserves To Report to Duty

TA091420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF general headquarters announces that the public callup exercise for people to present themselves for reserve duty is now being held. The reserve soldiers and owners of vehicles and heavy equipment stationed in the units whose codenames are detailed below will present themselves or put the equipment at the disposal of the IDF at once, at the meeting points, or directly in the units. Every owner of any piece of equipment that is a taxi as defined by the Transportation Codes, 1961, is also herewith called upon to put the taxi at the army's disposal as soon as this order is issued at the place to be named by a military policeman or a policeman of the Israeli Police Force.

These are the codenames of the units being called up for the exercise:

Av Ha'orqim (Aorta); Ofi Yatziv (Stable Character); Ahvat 'Amim (Love of Peoples); Boger Mikhlala (College Graduate); Glida Hama (Hot Ice Cream); Milon 'Ivri (Hebrew Dictionary); Neyar Sofeg (Blotting Paper); Nekhes Yaqar (Expensive Asset); Sod Qedoshim (Secret of Saints); Silsul Temidi (Permanent Curl); 'Agiley Oznayim (Earrings); Pras Hisakhon (Prize of Savings); Qav Orekh (Longitude); and Saqit Qeru'a (Torn Sack).

The order is signed by Major General David 'Ivri, the deputy chief of staff and head of the IDF Operational Branch, by virtue of his authority as commander, in accordance with the Law of Security Service 1959, combined version, and by virtue of his authority as commander in accordance with the codes for emergency times, registration of equipment and its mobilization, 1956, and in view of the IDF exercise now being held.

Syrian Mobilization, Weapons Arsenal Viewed

TA081408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Report by Gay Bekhor — recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] Syria has reached the conclusion that it must be capable of conducting a war against Israel on its own, without relying on other Arab countries. The trend in the Syrian Army, then, is an attempt to achieve a strategic balance with Israel. To this end, the Syrians have begun building up their units and acquiring weapons. The Syrian high command headed by Chief of Staff Hikmat Shihabi, which has been helped by Soviet advisers, has learned the lessons of the Lebanese war, and the Army, accordingly, is receiving training for offensive purposes. Recently, the Syrians established two new divisions, as well as tank and infantry divisions with the help of Soviet advisers, as I said. As part of the acquisition of new weapons, the old T-55 tanks are being replaced by more modern Soviet tanks, T-72's, which are expected to be the Syrian Army's main tank by the end of this year. At the end of the fighting last year, the Syrians received large quantities of weapons from the Soviet Union, mainly as compensation for the losses they suffered in the war. These weapons include about 200 T-72 tanks, and about 200 armored personnel carriers, most of them BMP-1. They received about 50-100 cannons, some of them to be towed, others mobile, and about 70 trucks with launchers for Katyusha rockets, BM-21's. They also received many aircraft that have made up for the losses they suffered in the air, about 100 aircraft, and surface-to-air missiles. After the war in Lebanon, after the disappointment the Syrians expressed over the Soviet weapons and aid, the involvement of the Soviet advisers in Syria was increased, and this involvement is aimed at helping to build up the force. This took the form of stationing SAM-5 missile systems in Syria. To this day, these systems are manned by Soviets. Beyond this, the number of Soviet advisers in Syria has been increased from about 2,500 to 4,000. The Syrian forces are carrying out many assault maneuvers with soldiers, and this exposes the army's objective, a declared objective, to create an offensive capability. Let us note here that the Syrian Army, even now, is stronger than it was before the Lebanon war. The assumption is that it will complete its strengthening no later than the end of 1984.

Moda'i, Peres Comment

TA090811 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Telephone interview with Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by Shalom Qital — live]

[Excerpts] [Qital] You are talking about issues over which there could be cooperation between the coalition and the opposition, and I will take this opportunity to ask you about the situation in the north, about tension there, and reports that the Syrians are concentrating troops. Can you tell us any soothing words this morning?

[Moda'i] I have seen newspaper headlines saying that the Syrians have received assurances from Israel and the United States. However, I would like to say that although it is very difficult, there is no need to reassure them. They may calm down this time but get excited next time, whenever that may be. Of course, the guarantee lies in the IDF's strength and its deterrent ability and I hope the latter is sufficient to deter the Syrians from making rash moves. However, if they dare, we will show them our strength. After all, it is actually impossible to appease a dictator who inflames and heats up the atmosphere for his own domestic needs.

[Qital] Mr Peres, let me ask you a question on another issue as we host you this morning. Regarding the situation in the north: The Syrians are mobilizing troops; there were warnings following assurances. How do you analyze what is happening now?

[Peres] It is hard for me to believe that the Syrians are going to launch an offensive because not long ago they had a taste of the IDF's strength. I do not think that a great change has occurred since then to the point where they would dare attack us. I think that despite the pretense of the Syrians, there is also nervousness in their camp. I think it is in the interest of all of us to lower the tension and to defuse the security situation.

Press Comment

TA090739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 9 Nov 83

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *HATZOFE* says that Israel acted correctly when it unambiguously declared that it does not intend to attack Syria and when it explained that the reserves mobilization exercise had been planned a long time ago, is a routine exercise to test the mobilization system, and is not at all related to the tension in the area in the wake of the attacks in Beirut and Tyre. The Syrians, hopefully, will cautiously contemplate their moves to avoid embroiling the region in a new war. Nevertheless, what is happening at present on the other side of the border calls for the IDF's highest alertness lest the enemies surrounding us succeed in taking us by surprise.

HA'ARETZ emphasizes that the Israeli Government has appeased the Syrians, that the mobilization exercise involving a small part of the reserves had been planned a long time ago. Nevertheless, it is clear that the tension between Washington and Damascus compels us to be alert. Who can blame the defense establishment for, mindful of the lessons of 1973, not wanting to be taken by surprise once again? Soothing words were also spoken in Washington. The U.S. Navy's moves were described as routine and, on the eve of his departure for Japan, President Reagan stated that the United States is not governed by any wish for revenge. However, the uncertainty over the purpose of the massive naval concentration off Beirut continues to have its effect, and it exacerbates the feelings of tension. All the parties responsible for this tension should make it clear to themselves that, ultimately, none of them wants a regional conflagration.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that in addition to all sort of measures which should be taken to dispel the dangerous tension, there is no choice other than to strive for a political, albeit restricted and indirect, dialogue with Syria. In the past we have had arrangements about red lines that worked well. Maybe today we should strive for clearer arrangements. At present, such arrangements would certainly not resolve the main dispute between us and Syria, but they would dispel mutual fears of hostile acts.

THE JERUSALEM POST says that there is no good reason for war now between Israel and Syria, and that Israel for its part is not planning one. Word to that effect has gone from Jerusalem to Damascus. The paper adds that if the Syrians ignore the advice of MK Shim'on Peres to stop serving as the source of terrorism, they could themselves trigger a war with Israel. But there is hardly any chance that Israel would go to war against Syria to repair the global balance of power vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

Kimche To Conduct Political Dialogue in Cairo

TA090616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The political dialogue between Israel and Egypt is being revived for the first time since the Peace for Galilee war. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche and the ministry's legal adviser, Elyaqim Rubinstein, are leaving for Cairo today. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer points out that administration officials in Washington have been making great efforts to bring about a revival of the dialogue between the two countries. They also raised the issue during President Mubarak's visit to the United States.

Preview of Talks

TA090651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0620 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Has the frozen peace between Israel and Egypt thawed somewhat? This question is raised in light of Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche's departure for Cairo last night to discuss bilateral relations with the top echelons of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry for the first time since the Lebanon war. Our political correspondent points out that the Egyptian invitation came in the wake of intense efforts on the part of Israel and Egypt to improve the atmosphere between them. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin Frankel recording] It is too early to talk about a turnabout in Israeli-Egyptian relations. However, after everybody here predicted a total freeze in the ties between both countries, this is certainly a positive and, perhaps, surprising change. David Kimche and the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser, Elyaqim Rubinstein, last night departed for Cairo for 2 days of talks. The Israeli delegation will confer with Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and other officials. A meeting has not yet been set with President Mubarak.

The highlight of the talks in Cairo is Israeli-Egyptian relations. The talks come in the wake of recent efforts by both countries, with the help of the United States, to establish a dialogue. Kimche will discuss with his Egyptian counterparts the old disputes regarding the status of Tabah, the Canada camp in Rafah, economic relations between the two countries, in addition to the most burning issue in the Middle East: Lebanon. The importance of the visit may be underscored by the discussions on the latter issue in light of the worsening dispute between Syria and Egypt over the siege in Tripoli. Mubarak has openly come out in support of 'Arafat and is apparently ready to give him political asylum in Cairo. On the face of it at least, an interesting scenario may arise here: The Israeli Navy besieges northern Lebanon which allows an Egyptian boat to rescue the surrounded terrorist leader. In any case, the main issue of the talks in Cairo is first of all Israeli-Egyptian relations. Political sources believe that the Egyptians will not try to hide the fact of the visit. Jerusalem tends to regard the significance of these talks with great caution. The sources say that our relations with Cairo are very delicate and only at the end of the visit will we be able to know whether there will be a followup to this visit. [end recording]

Lebanese Civilian Guard Commander Wounded

TA090956 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0948 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] Another commander of the civilian guard in southern Lebanon was shot last night. Unidentified persons opened fire at the commander of the civilian guard in the village of Haruf. The

man, (Hatam Habari), sustained serious wounds and was transferred to the hospital in Sidon and later to the Rambam Hospital in Haifa aboard an Air Force helicopter. Another militia member who was with him was also wounded by the shots.

As will be recalled, the commander of the civilian guard in An-Nabatiyah was shot dead 2 days ago. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz points out that the civilian guards in southern Lebanon operate in coordination with the IDF and Major Haddad's men.

Iranian Envoy to Syria Linked to Suicide Attacks

TA061241 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Nov 83 p 6

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] Iranian Ambassador to Damascus 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi has been assigned by his country to coordinate activities with Syrian intelligence in order to step up terrorist operations in Lebanon with the help of the Iranian suicidal group "Al-Jihad Al-Islami." This group has assumed responsibility for the murderous attacks on the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut and on the IDF headquarters in Tyre.

"Al-Jihad Al-Islami" is one of the Shi'ite armed militia groups backed by Syria, Libya, and Fatah's dissident terrorists. This Shi'ite militia serves under the aegis of one single command in Ba'labakk in the Al-Biqa' Valley calling itself "Iman Husayn's Militia Headquarters," after a Shi'ite saint who died in the battle over Karbala in southern Iraq in the year 680. The spiritual leader of "Al-Jihad Al-Islami" is Husayn Musawi, who also sits in Ba'labakk, a 35-year-old high school teacher who to this day receives his salary from the Lebanese Education Ministry.

Several years ago, against the backdrop of the disappearance of Lebanese Shi'ite leader Imam Musa as-Sadr — who was apparently murdered by Al-Qadhdhafi — Musawi initiated the hijacking of several airplanes and later the explosions at the Iraqi and U.S. Embassies in Beirut. "Imam Husayn's Militia" was organized by Iranian General (Kan'ani), when Syria welcomed the expedition of 500 Iranian "Revolutionary Guards," extremely religious soldiers who are Khomeyni's closest loyalists. Their first goal was to fight Israel "on the path to the liberation of Jerusalem." However, Syrian intelligence opted for keeping them in the large Shi'ite centers in Al-Biqa', in the Ba'labakk-Al-Hirmil District.

Musawi founded the political organization "Islamic Amal," which split off from the Shi'ite "Al-Amal" organization led by attorney Nabih Birri. He wanted to merge young Lebanese Shi'ites loyal to him with the Iranian "Revolutionary Guards" under the name "Iman Husayn's militia." In due time, the militia took over Lebanese Army bases in Al-Biqa' and even flew Iranian flags in them while warning Lebanese Army soldiers not to leave the camps. Musawi believes that the Lebanese Army is a crusading army armed and trained by "the enemies of God," that is, the United States, France, and Israel.

General (Kan'ani) and Musawi trained and instructed a group of volunteers willing to commit suicide. In interviews with the media, both men argued that Islamic Lebanon could only be established with the help of this group. These militiamen and some Iranian soldiers had recently even penetrated into West Beirut and apparently also into southern Lebanon where they found ample ground for their activities among local youths who began to grow scraggly beards. Arab journalists argue that one should not at present make light of the strength and influence of Musawi as the leader of all the Shi'ite centers in Lebanon, despite the fact that he is called a "traitor and street urchin" by moderate Shi'ite leaders in Lebanon.

It seems that the attack on the IDF headquarters in Tyre was meant to inspire pride among the southern Shi'ites and pave the way for the inclusion of Musawi's forces in the "popular war" in southern Lebanon that is sought by Syria, as Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared at the reconciliation conference in Geneva. Khaddam argued that such a war would be a substitute for the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. Seeking to further penetrate the hearts of southerners, Musawi issued a communique on behalf of "Al-Jihad Al-Islami" stating that the attack on the IDF headquarters had been perpetrated in the wake of Israeli attacks on southern Shi'ites.

The method used in the attack on the IDF headquarters in Tyre did not differ from the one by Musawi's suicides in the attack on the U.S. and French headquarters. The IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY rushed to gleefully react to the attack by saying: "This was an extremely courageous suicide operation; those who planned and carried it out were courageous Lebanese sons."

Algeria, Iran's friend, went out of its way to praise the performance. The leader of the "Al-Amal" movement, attorney Nabih Birri, said that this would not be the last operation in view of the continued Israeli occupation. Lebanese public figures contended that the attack was designed to undermine the achievements of the first stage of the national reconciliation conference. The Beirut government yesterday attributed the explosion near the residence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and near the Lebanese TV station to the same extreme fanatic group. Three Lebanese were killed in these explosions.

Security Measures Taken Against Booby Traps

TA080859 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Nov 83 p 8

[Report by Arye Egozi]

[Text] Security precautions against booby-trapped cars have been taken in the wake of the attack in Tyre, not only in Lebanon, but also in sensitive places in Israel.

These precautions have been taken at entrances to IDF camps, near bases of the border guards, and also in highly sensitive government institutions. The security guards in those places have also been given special instructions in the event of attempts to infiltrate vehicles into the restricted area.

Yesterday security sources said these precautions had been taken since the success of the various terrorist organizations in using

booby-trapped cars in Lebanon might encourage them to use a similar method inside Israel too.

The security precautions that have been taken include putting up physical barriers to prevent the rapid breakthrough of a vehicle and instructions not to permit cars to park near sensitive buildings. Such precautions have already been in force for a long time in highly sensitive places, such as Ben-Gurion Airport, where the police tow away any car that parks in front of the terminal if the owners are not beside it.

Ben-Elisar Comments on PLO, 'Arafat Position

TA071740 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Interview with Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar by Sha'ul Stav, date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Stav] Dr Ben-Elisar, 'Arafat is retreating under the pressure of fire from his opponents in Tripoli. This may mean the end of the road for him. Is this a positive process in your opinion? Does it have any significance?

[Ben-Elisar] It has a great deal of significance, from Israel's point of view but not just from its point of view. First of all, once again the peoples of this region are provided with impressive proof, especially the Palestinian Arabs, that terror is leading them to a dead end. It also proves that those organizations calling themselves Palestinian, which are supposed to safeguard the interests of the Palestinian Arabs, are not leading them anywhere but to killing and death. This is perhaps the place to recall that Palestinian terrorism has always exacted a heavier death toll from the Arabs than from the Jews. The end of the road for the PLO, in its present form, means that whatever happens tomorrow under the Syrian boot will no longer be the same. This will be a totally different ballgame, not just between ourselves and the terrorist organizations, but also perhaps even between ourselves and the Syrians. As for 'Arafat the man, it is, of course, difficult to predict what will happen.

[Stav] In your view, is it important to Israel who will head the PLO, whether it is 'Arafat or Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]?

[Ben-Elisar] If this is the PLO as we know it, have known it since 1968 or 1969, the truth is that it really does not make any difference. I have already compared whoever heads this organization to the difference between cholera and the bubonic plague. There is no difference. These are two sicknesses that cause death. There is no difference between one murderer and another. But it is perfectly possible that this might be quite a different organization, not just a different leadership.

[Stav] By a different organization, do you mean under Syrian organization and Syrian command?

[Ben-Elisar] That could certainly be the case. And if that is how it is, then this will be something quite different from what there was in 1968 and afterward. Perhaps we should mention that ultimately the PLO came into being in Syria's midst, under Syrian aegis, before the 6-Day War, but at that time it did not yet have the status it attained much later — either among the Arabs or within the international community.

[Stav] In light of this Syrian takeover of the PLO through its emissaries within the organization itself, do you envisage an alternative leadership of the Palestinians with whom it might be possible to conduct a dialogue?

[Ben-Elisar] I do not envisage any possibility of Israel being able, at any future time, to conduct a dialogue with organizations under one leadership or another, under this kind of supervision, or even if they conduct their own policy, whose aim is always identical, that is, the annihilation of the State of Israel, whether this is achieved in one or two stages. I do not see any possibility of a dialogue, for the simple reason that this aim of annihilating Israel does not leave the Israeli side any leeway for maneuvering, not even for talks.

[Stav] The question is, in light of the escalation now under way, whether it would be impossible to find an alternative leadership in Judaea and Samaria with whom we could talk and achieve an understanding and agreement?

[Ben-Elisar] First of all, I am not of the opinion that there is an escalation under way now, and I think it is possible to find local dignitaries and leaders with whom we could certainly continue, for there is already a dialogue in existence. We could perhaps even make this dialogue more concrete in nature. And I say this could be done now because it is quite possible that these local leaders and notables feel freer now, liberated from the terror instilled in them by the PLO. They were quite simply afraid of being murdered. Not only do I hope, I very much want us to hold this kind of dialogue with the local Arab-Palestinian leadership in order to attain a joint formula. For one thing must be clear to us all: We will continue to coexist, to live together in this country.

[Stav] My last question leads me to the immediate reaction of our Air Force in the wake of the Tyre attack. Various objectives, various organizations, were attacked. Do we not make any distinctions between one terrorist organization and another in our reaction? Is that how we should act?

[Ben-Elisar] The Air Force operated against very clearly defined objectives. I would almost say against spot targets. We are speaking of terrorist objectives. But if you ask me whether in our attacks we ought to distinguish between one terrorist organization and another, then I say, very definitely, on no account. There is no need to discriminate between organizations, whether these are Palestinian or not, provided we are clear about their intentions and their actions as being directed against Israel and aimed at hitting Israel, its forces, and its population. We must not discriminate among them. In my opinion they must all share one fate — to be hit by us.

Al-'Amal Said To Organize S. Lebanon Strike

TA081250 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Report by Hayim Hecht — recorded]

[Text] The initiative for organizing the strike in southern Lebanon came from the Al-'Amal offices in Beirut. The head of the Shi'ite movement, Nabih Birri, whose links with Damascus are an open secret, has clearly called for viewing today's strike as the beginning of a civil uprising against the occupying forces in southern Lebanon. Shi'ite clergymen issued a statement from Beirut and Ba'labakk saying that violent demonstrations against the IDF are the holy duty of every Muslim.

The commercial strike indeed encompasses all towns and villages in southern Lebanon, but so far it has not been characterized by violence against the IDF. The residents prefer to remain at home and only in a few cases, in the villages of Tibnit, 'Adlun, and Jibshit were a number of tires set on fire.

The sober, experienced approach of the southern Lebanese is manifest here again: They are striking in order to win the favor of their leaders in Beirut, but at the same time they prefer to maintain quiet, well aware that the IDF, especially following the Tyre incident, will react to any disturbance very firmly.

The cause for today's strike is the closing of the bridges on the Al-Awwali River and the removal of Lebanese Government officials from the military authorities building in Sidon. Yesterday the IDF officers in Lebanon tried to remove the sting from both these arguments. This morning the bridges were opened and traffic from north to south is proceeding smoothly; traffic from southern Lebanon northward requires special permits issued by the IDF commands.

The Lebanese Government officials and the Sidon Gendarmerie officers did not conceal their dissatisfaction yesterday when they had to evacuate the building where the military authorities offices are also located. The IDF soldiers made it clear to them that this is a temporary arrangement for security reasons. In the wake of the Tyre terrorist act, the IDF decided that IDF commands and Lebanese Government civilian offices will not be located under the same roof.

As said, this morning's strike is almost complete but it nevertheless seems that its initiators in Beirut and Ba'labakk did not manage to get matters rolling in the direction of a civil uprising in southern Lebanon.

Sharp Rise in Foreign Debt Seen in Next 5 Years

TA081956 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] A classified document which the Treasury submitted to the Cabinet yesterday states that unless harsh measures are adopted in the economy, Israel's foreign debt could well increase to more than $41 billion within the next 5 years. The document, which fell into the hands of our correspondent 'Oded Shahr, states that given this state of affairs, Israel will have to obtain annual loans of $8 to $9 billion, and the country could well wind up bankrupt.

ALGERIA

President Receives Jospin, Saudi Envoy in Paris

LD081417 Algiers APS in English 1050 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, 08/11/83 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid currently on an official visit to France received in his residence at Marigny Palace the first secretary of the Socialist Party (P.S.) Lionel Jospin. Jospin said the discussion centered on problems of the Middle East, Western Sahara, and bilateral relations. The president conferred also with the Saudi Ambassador to France Shaykh Jamil al-Hujaylan. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

Bendjedid Concerned Over Palestinian 'Fratricide'

LD081332 Algiers APS in English 1101 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Algiers, 08/11/83 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN Party secretary general, follows with a great sorrow and concern before the tragic events that the Palestinian resistance is knowing and the bloody combats between brothers within the same rank against the Zionist enemy. [sentence as received] If President Chadli Bendjedid, currently on an official visit in the French republic, dispatched yesterday a special envoy in Damascus beside other envoys previously dispatched and his personal contacts and telephone calls, words are not sufficient to express his and Algerians' sorrow in this most gloomy period that the Arab nation is going through. Algeria, aware of all the blood and sacrifices, urges all sides whatever their positions and divergence of view could be, not to use their weapons against their brothers.

It also calls all free men of the Arab nation to spare no efforts to contribute in putting an end to this tragedy for which the Arab nation paid a heavy tribute to the detriment of its dignity and life of its innocent sons. Algeria is convinced that Palestinian heroes will be able to show wisdom and reason to preserve dignity mainly in confronting the enemy which enjoys and profits by fratricide combats.

Algiers Expresses 'Condemnation' Of Strife

LD091052 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Algiers, 9 Nov (APS) — The Palestinian revolution, and with it the entire Arab nation, is currently going through a phase considered to be one of the gravest, if not the gravest, since the Palestinian revolution arose 18 years ago. The bloody fighting which broke out among the brothers, 5 days ago in northern Lebanon, places the Palestinian revolution at the mercy of the devil, jeopardizes the Palestinian problem with the gravest dangers and threatens to dissipate gains achieved by the Palestinian people at the cost of blood and enormous sacrifices.

It is not important to know now who is wrong and who is right in all that is happening on the Palestinian arena. The important and urgent thing is for the rifles and the guns to be silenced and for the [word indistinct] bloody operations among the brethren to be stopped and to be replaced by democratic dialogue, which up till very recently was the main basis of the Palestinian revolution which distinguished it from other revolutions.

Algeria, which has followed and is still following with deep anxiety and pain what is happening on the Palestinian arena in these circumstances, cannot but express its profound displeasure — moreover, its condemnation — of the development of events and the vicious way they have developed. The Palestinian blood being shed freely today can only serve the enemies of the revolution and the enemies of the Palestinian problem in the region and in the world.

Algeria at all times and under all conditions stands by the legality, the sole representation, and the independence of Palestinian decisions. However, it is common sense that such matters cannot be ensured and have credibility in the Arab and international regions without the unity of Palestinian ranks. This unity cannot be achieved except by immediately halting the current bloody military operations, because that is the only opening for dialogue and for the triumph of the supreme interest of the revolution and the cause over selfish interests, which if they continue will lead all to destruction. The halting of the present fighting on the Palestinian arena must be the first urgent task of all the vital and good forces in the Arab nation. Moreover, the Palestinian revolution, which rose on the principle of democratic dialogue, must remember in this fateful period one of its major slogans, namely, "All rifles pointed at enemy chests," and implement this slogan.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Pledges Support to Syrian President

LD082204 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution this evening made a telephone call to his Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. Through this telephone contact, it was confirmed that Libya and Syria have been making joint efforts to stop the fratricide among the Palestinian brothers. It was also stressed that there is a need to solve the problems between the warring Palestinian sides at a Fatah conference and by democratic means. The brother leader expressed to President Hafiz al-Asad regret that Yasir 'Arafat turned the political disputeinside Fatah into a bloody struggle and fierce war, and, after causing the deaths of hundreds of innocent people in the Nahr al-Barid and al-Baddawi camps, has finally sought refuge in the town of Tripoli, Lebanon, where he moved the field artillery and missile launchers and heavy weapons into the streets of that peaceful town which is crowded with civilians so that more human losses would ensue.

The brother leader of the revolution and President Hafiz al-Asad agreed that Yasir 'Arafat must leave Tripoli and that he must not turn it into a trench for more killing and destruction. 'Arafat can then come forward to a Fatah conference and defendhimself and his views because the Palestinian weapons should be pointed at the Israelis only and not at the chests of the Palestinians and the Lebanese. Issues between the comrades in arms must be solved democratically and no others must be allowed to interfere

in the domestic affairs of the Palestinians, whether they are from the Arab or foreign states.

The brother leader and President Hafiz al-Asad expressed their concern over the growing U.S. buildup, represented in the arsenal of naval and air fleets off the Lebanese shores and in the area and the violation of the region's airspace by U.S. warplanes, which is pushing the area to the brink of an international war. The brother leader and President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed that the Arab nation should be called upon to stand alongside Syria and the Lebanese people and they stressed their intention not to let the Arab territories be easy prey to U.S. aggression, as happened in Grenada. The brother leader and President Hafiz al-Asad during this telephone call explained that the Syrian Arab and Lebanese territory will be another Vietnam for the U.S. forces. The brother leader also affirmed to President Hafiz al-Asad that Libya, standing totally with fraternal Syria, considers any aggression against the Syrian region as a direct aggression against Libya.

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Message to U.S. Congress, UN
NC090733 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has addressed messages to the UN secretary general, the president of the UN Security Council, the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, the OAU chairman, and the speaker and members of the U.S. Congress concerning the grave situation that has arisen as a result of the massing of the U.S. fleets and the NATO forces off the Lebanese and Syrian coast, a matter which threatens the Arab region and which is causing the situation in the area to erupt and is endangering world peace, consequently pushing the world toward a third world war.

Tripoli Comments on 'Arafat, U.S. Presence
LD081545 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Feelings of pity for Yasir 'Arafat have been dramatically emerging from several capitals, as though the deteriorating condition he placed himself in by his capitulationary policies has agonized the hearts and shattered them. Nothing of this sort took place when Beirut was under siege. Everyone kept silent and all turned their faces away leaving everything to face ugly devastation and dstruction at the hands of the Zionist invasion forces. One cannot but feel astonished at the expressions of fear and panic for 'Arafat at a time when what is happening to him is caused by a purely Palestinian action, intended to cleanse the body of the Palestinian revolution of all rotten evils and ailments and to ensure that the Palestinian revolutionary edifice will remain solid in defying Zionist military oppression and facing up to the treacherous might of the U.S. Administration.

Hence, we are skeptical of these feelings of pity. We have our suspicions regarding their motives. For although their defense [as heard] stems from actual anxiety, matters should have been different, that is, attention should be focused on what is more important and more serious. For we must view matters in a realistic and logical manner: There is a clear difference between attitudes toward the cause and attitudes toward persons. What we mean is that the Palestine question and the PLO are not matters tied to one or more persons. Furthermore, any successes or gains made by the PLO were not achieved by Yasir 'Arafat or Khalil al-Wazir or anyone else. They were achieved and realized by the willpower of the Palestinian people and their desperate struggle. What is more serious and more important, and consequently should be concentrated on and rallied around, is the American miltary penetration in the eastern part of the Mediterranean which is coupled with an open threat of aggression against Syria with the participation of the Zionist enemy and others.

This is the grave situation which threatens the Arab region and causes explosions in it, thereby exposing world peace to danger and pushing the world toward another, a third, world war. Hence, all must rise to face these dangers which are basically directed toward the Palestine questions with a view to liquidating it and thus we prove by our actions that we are committed to defending the Palestine question because it is our principal question: The question is not Yasir 'Arafat or his clique.

Romanian Defense Minister Arrives in Tripoli
LD081917 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Nov (JANA) — Constantin Olteanu, Romanian minister of national defense and member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. General Commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir headed those who welcomed the Romanian defense minister and accompanying delegation at Tripoli International Airport. Also taking part in this welcome were a number of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces officers, the Romanian ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and members of the staff of the Romanian Embassy.

AL-JAMAHIRIYAH Critical of Soviet Stand on Grenada
PM081647 Tripoli AL-JAMAHIRIYAH in Arabic 28 Oct 83 p 1

[Balqasim Samidah article: "Loss of Credibility"]

[Text] A few days after the invading U.S. soldiers defiled the soil of the island of Grenada, matters with regard to the Soviet attitude toward the terrorist U.S. invasion seems to be clearer.

The Soviet feebleness in the face of the barbaric and savage U.S. invasion of Grenada raises several serious questions, foremost of which is: Have the Russians, by adopting a spectator's attitude, given up their claims of progressiveness and hostility to U.S. imperialism? Have the Russians finally become convinced that the U.S. impudent invasion of Grenada will strengthen the Russian position in Afghanistan on the grounds that Afghanistan and Grenada are each in the grip of one of the superpowers? Is there some sort of a disgraceful barter under which the Soviets keep silent over Grenada in return for the Americans accepting that Afghanistan is for the Russians? What will be the position

of small nations now after this serious precedent in the sphere of tense international relations?

As a free Libyan citizen I feel angry and furious as did thousands of Libyans when they marched in protest demonstrations against the recent "extremely serious" incidents, the latest of which was the uncivilized invasion carried out by leader of international terror against a very small people in an island that enjoyed peace before U.S. battleships and helicopters scorched it with their fire in an operation that was in flagrant violation of international custom and covenants. It has been categorically proven that the question of freedom which everybody claims to defend and cherish has become a "myth" and a "stupid slogan" that collapsed when the first U.S. invading terrorist set foot on the quiet island. Even the Soviet Union, which considers itself to stand on the side of freedom, upholding its banner, and hostile to imperialism and colonialism, seems to have lost its credibility. The masses and peoples throughout the world have consequently lost their principled trust in it, something that will have serious implications in view of what may result from it.

Therefore, the peoples must henceforth depend on themselves in this world in which civilization, ethics, and freedom have died and in which the Russians and the Americans have become identical and equally the same.

The catastrophe for us, the peoples of small countries, occurs when the superpowers decide to divide the world between them, "each according its designs and strength." This situation puts the Russians in the dock because all peoples believe, although they may not say so frankly, that the Soviet Union stands accused and suspected. This is in view of the fact that the Soviet Union did not make a move in the face of the invasion of Grenada despite the fact that it is a permanent member of the Security Council which makes it incumbent upon it to see to the achievement of the council's objectives, which is to prevent aggression and recourse to the use of force, and to protect the rights and independence of countries and peoples. Despite the fact that it has the moral and material means that enable it to stand up in the face of the United States, it preferred to remain silent, thus giving Reagan a free hand to kill and to occupy land in the inflamed Caribbean.

We were expecting the Russians to adopt a historical stand in this situation and in other situations such as the barbaric Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the ousting of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut. But most unfortunately the Soviet Union did not adopt such a historical stand and thus appeared to be no different from the terrorist United States. The Soviet Union should have adopted an attitude toward Grenada similar to that adopted by the United States during the well-known "Cuban missile crisis" in the early Sixties when it prevented the passage of Russian ships except after inspection. We well recall how the United States faced this situation, when it threatened to wage a third world war if the Russians did not retreat. Russia should now have taken the opportunity to adopt the same U.S. stand then and should have proved the credibility of its political line and its adherence to hostility to imperialism, even if this might lead to a third international confrontation,because entering a third world war now seems to be better than living in a kind of peace under which small nations die whenever the big ones decide that they should.

As a citizen of a small country which could share the same fate as Grenada, I have a right to say what I said. When the defenders of the freedom of small nations disappear and when the United States realizes that this is the case, then it will not hesitate to swallow up the small countries.

This makes it incumbent upon the small countries to depend on themselves and not to count on the "others." Therefore, a country like Cuba should fully realize that, however it may try to delude itself, it must accept the bitter reality that what happened to the state of Grenada might happen to it. We must frankly admit that in order for the Soviets to retain Afghanistan the "progressive forces" must have lost their dynamism and ability to retaliate. More precisely, Russia has become very restricted and incapable of doing anything in the face of the terrible U.S. imperialist tide. We say this out of care for freedom and not out of spite or hostility toward the Soviet Union, for, it is said, it is a progressive force. We say this because we should not deceive outselves by relying on "others" in confronting the United States so that we may know how we stand. Death to America and to all enemies of the peoples.

MAURITANIA

Attempt To 'Liquidate' PLO Leadership Condemned

LD090922 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The Permanent Committee of the Military Committee for National Salvation today held a regular meeting under Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. The permanent committee studied the worrying conditions in the Middle East. In this context the Permanent Committee strongly condemns and denounces the conscious or unconscious action of all those who are trying fiercely to liquidate the PLO and its legitimate leadership. It reminds them that the regrettable events which are now tearing apart the Arab arena can only benefit the enemies of our nation represented in Zionism and its main allies.

MOROCCO

Boucetta States Moroccan Case on Sahara to UN

LD081424 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] New York, Nov 8 (MAP) — "We are always ready to organize the referendum (in the Sahara) in line with the conditions set by the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and its decisions," stated Mr M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs. Taking the floor on Monday before the Fourth Commission of the United Nations General Assembly, also known as "Decolonization Committee," Mr Boucetta after reviewing the evolution of the Sahara issue, underlined that Morocco "in order to put an end to a fratricidal conflict, has gone to the OAU to propose the organizing of referendum (...) to enable the African organization and the whole international community to get assured of the free expression of the Saharan populations' [punctuation as received] willingness.

Any other attempt, be it in the declarations or in draft resolutions, can only be considered as a deliberate will to obstruct the referendum," he said.

Morocco, which will continue to "clear away obstacles that might hinder the organizing of the referendum" that it claims, cannot admit to be pushed "to actions for which certain consequences can be considered as grave, to the recognition of states which do not exist, to direct negotiations with some movements which exist only for those who want to create them," the state minister added.

More on Saharan Referendum

LD081631 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Moroccan Minister of State in charge of Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta has affirmed in an interview granted to the BBC mission in New York that Morocco cannot, under any circumstances whatsoever, negotiate directly with the so-called Polisario. This is because Morocco is a state and consequently can talk only with a state. He affirmed that the Polisario mercenaries enjoy no recognition from the OAU as a liberation movement nor do they constitute a state.

He recalled that Morocco agreed to participate in the OAU work after the countries which wanted to force the organization to accept the Polisario as a member abandoned their attempt. He also recalled that the OAU discussed the Saharan question in great detail both at the Nairobi summit conference, when King Hassan II submitted his initiative on holding a referendum in the Saharan regions, and at the committee entrusted with the task of dealing with the Saharan question. All the requisite resolutions were adopted in support of holding the referendum.

As for submitting the question again to the Fourth Committee of the United Nations, M'hamed Boucetta expressed his belief that the committee will recommend that the question be referred back to the OAU and will affirm the resolution adopted with regard to it. He pointed out that the United Nations should help the OAU to arrange for the referendum. Asked if the referendum will be held under UN or OAU supversion, Boucetta affirmed that it will be held under OAU supervision with UN assistance, because the United Nations has experts with the know-how and experience which could be of use to the OAU. Asked about the obstacles that may arise in the way or the organization of the referendum, he said that the OAU Executive Committee has taken all the necessary measures and arrangements connected with the referendum. The committee should play its part.

SUDAN

President Numayri Addresses People's Assembly

JN070905 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Nov (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri addressed the opening session of the People's Assembly this morning. The president said that the assembly is meeting when Sudan has realized a great achievement, because People's Assembly Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid was elected president of the IPU. He said that this is a triumph for the Sudanese revolution's popular and legislative institutions on various levels, and a triumph for the various aspects of Sudan's foreign policy. He expressed hope that during Sudan's presidency the IPU will be very active and will realize great achievements in the service of its principles. Noting the Shikan Battle centennial, which occurred the day before yesterday, President Numayri paid homage to the Sudanese martyrs throughout history who have defended the nnation's soil, dignity, and pride.

The president said: At the beginning of my second mandate, I pledged to your assembly that I would declare the Islamic message as a guide in order to gather your hearts around the essence of religion and the center of faith. Therefore, it was no coincidence that the first achievement during the new mandate was the presentation and implementation of the strategy of effective, real justice within Islamic law as stipulated in the comprehensive political program.

The president added: Although the commitment to the Islamic path was made clear only at the beginning of the third mandate, it has been the revolution's aim for a long time. The revolution was very close to religion when it realized national unity and destroyed multiple loyalties and banners so that the people would not fight because of sedition and trouble. The revolution was closer to religion when it fought and destroyed atheism, confronted alien ideologies with genuine Sudanese thought, and renewed people's sense of belonging to the land and their self-confidence.

The president said that the revolution was closer to the faith when it opted for the difficult and rejected the easy. The revolution was interested in basic development projects rather than projects of quick production and immediate benefits. It was closer to faith when the country's Constitution stipulated that Islam is the source of legislation and that the state will deal with people of various heavenly religions on an equal basis in accordance with the spirit and teachings of religion.

The president said that the revolution worked to liberate Sudanese religion from foreign hegemony. In 1974, the first Sudanese bishop was sworn in; and in 1975 the leadership of Sudan's Catholic churches was Sudanized. All churches and missions were Sudanized, and Sudanese people became qualfied ministers. The president said that the revolution followed the teachings of Islam and gave women their rights. Islam has given women their rights, and has stressed their role in life and in the family.

Numayri said that the revolution wanted to apply Islamic law in the Islamic society in order to establish the basis for permanent rules. The revolution reviewed the previous laws in order to avoid any contradiction with Islamic laws either in practice or in the theoretical principles that are being invoked in all Islamic lands. The president also said that Sudan has adopted Islamic laws in order to be a host for the African Islamic Center, the international center to teach the language of the Koran to those who do not speak Arab, and so that the Islamic university in Omdurman may become a beacon of light for Sudan and the world in the name of Islam and in support of Islam. The president said that, as stipulated in the comprehensive political program, Islamic law

cannot be confined to issuing and applying Islamic fatwas. It is a commitment and [word indistinct] before being a series of deterrents and things not to do.

President Numayri added that real justice based on the Islamic trend achieves justice and tolerance, and protects both society and its individuals. It is a commitment. He added that the comprehensive political program is a national responsibility. Let the People's Assembly, in its session that began today, follow up the implementation of its programs and its plans that the appropriate ministers will submit to the Council of Ministers in accordance to a timetable. On regional rule and decentralization, President Numayri said that legislative and executive organs were established in the three southern regions in implementation of Presidential Order No 1, thus reaffirming the unity of the Sudanese experiment throughout the one homeland. Dualism in regional and local authority has also been eliminated by separating the provincial capitals from the regional capitals. This resulted in the creation of new capitals in various Sudanese provinces.

President Numayri explained that decentralization has been the democratic trend by which the May revolution has abided, based on the people's will to protect the people's aspirations and in conformity with the Constitution. The past stage dictated that the size of several ministries and central organs be reduced in order to prevent the central government from limiting the regional authorities' powers, and to encourage regional rule and rule based on local popular consensus. Therefore, these ministries and organs will be reduced even more in the future to achieve the same objective. The special status enjoyed by the national capital calls for reviewing the Khartoum Province Law for replacing it with the law on the national capital.

President Numayri added that the measures on the road to implementing the comprehensive political program do not obviate the need to formulate policies that represent the context within which the program's target of achievement will conform to its rates of achievement, and within a framework that will deal with a limited part of the comprehensive whole and that will define the course of national action in the current stage. [sentence as received]

President Numayri said that if self-dependence is one of the main requisites of the comprehensive political program and a means for implementing and achieving its objectives, then it is natural that policies be defined by taking this slogan into consideration and abiding by it in all spheres. President Numayri added that self-dependence means that we must take stock of our resources and capabilities, because they are the foundation. In our economic policy, we will depend on our own sources to finance public expenditures. We will enhance the efficiency of the tax department, attract foreign investments, and reschedule our foreign obligations in a manner that will not exceed the trend of development. The president added that national efforts will be directed at increasing investments, with the goal of completing and developing our economic infrastructure and adopting a banking policy that will encourage production.

President Numayri said that self-dependence means that self-sufficiency must be attained. This will be achieved by expanding our foreign and domestic trade in a manner that will fulfill production requirements and provide basic consumer goods. He added that self-dependence requires many efforts, and that as a result of many years of effort a 32 percent success rate has been achieved in the oil exploration done so far. He added: We expect 11 oil discoveries over the next 3 years. In 1985, the first stages in exporting Sudanese oil will begin when the dual oil pipeline and the export sea terminal are completed. President Numayri said that self-dependence not only means that we must rely on our own resources, but that we must exploit them in the best possible manner. The third power project will be completed next year. It will immediately be followed by the implementation of the fourth power project at a cost of 1 billion pounds.

President Numayri said that although integration between Egypt and Sudan is a historic responsibility that links the past with the future, this generation's leadership and institutions in both Egypt and Sudan are responsible for legislating this integration. It is an honor for this generation to put this integration into practice and to develop it in such a manner that the Egyptian-Sudanese integration will be a model for our Arab nation, our African Continent, and for a world that is rebelling against partitions and disintegration. President Numayri said that the integration steps being taken to move from method to charter, from limited executive work to full institutional work, and from the leaders' responsibility to that of the two peoples represented by their political, legislative, and executive bodies are steps along the path of unity. After being embodied in political institutions represented by the Higher Integration Council other efficient executive institutions, and in a unified legislative council represented by the Nile Valley Parliament, integration has become a trust assigned to the one people in Egypt and Sudan. These people are responsible for preserving and developing it.

President Numayri said that the urgent objective of Egyptian-Sudanese integration is to fulfill the two countries' needs by means of their human and material resources. Its goal is to achieve a surplus that can satisfy the needs of our Arab nation, African Continent, and the whole world. Integration will always be the ambition of one people who are working for their homeland's prosperity and for the self-sufficiency of the nation, continent, and the world in which they live, and who are cooperating for the sake of peace, justice, and sufficiency everywhere.

President Numayri said that internal construction can be safeguarded and developed when security, stability, and national unity that can hold out in the face of attempts to undermine it are all prevalent. Although all of this is the responsibility of all the people, it is an honor entrusted to the People's Armed Forces, the other regular forces, and the security institutions. The People's Armed Forces — the vanguards of May victory — were and will continue to be the shield protecting national unity.

President Numayri said that self-dependence, which is raised as a slogan at this stage and at all stages, does not mean seclusion from the worries of our nation, the problems of our continent, and the issues of our world. Therefore, Sudan's foreign policy is not based on neutrality toward conflicts and problems threatening either the present or future of the Arab nation, the African Continent, or even world peace. Hence, the Sudanese leadership has moved on the Arab level to realize an Arab soldiarity that

will stop the Arab blood that is being spilled by Arab hands in Lebanon. It has moved to preserve Lebanese independence and unity, and to preserve the unity of the PLO. It moved to guarantee Iraq's sovereignty over its national soil and to effect a unified Arab stand to confront Israel's looming dangers and indiscriminant ambitions in the entire Arab land. Sudan moved to liberate the occupied Arab territories in the Golan, the West Bank, and Gaza; to abort threats to the West Bank and Gaza Strip; and to abort Syria's plot to introduce Marxism in Lebanon and then divide Lebanon into statelets, thus realizing the dream of greater Israel.

President Numayri added that Sudan [words indistinct] employing all its capabilities to restore Arab Egypt to the Arab nation so that this country can continue its historic role in Arab struggle in support of Arab rights everywhere. He said: Now that Egypt has obtained a seat at the Security Council, according to the international will, it is working to take its place in Arab ranks. Egypt has never been absent from the Arab world, and it s an integral part of the Arab nation.

President Numayri stressed that Sudan, which calls for Arab solidarity, does not make any conditions or restrictions on the hands that are held out to shake its hand — and I do not say to settle accounts with it, because we have never started an enmity [words indistinct] We upheld and will continue to uphold our sovereignty, and will not allow anyone to undermine it. We will defend our dignity against any attempt to interfere in our internal affairs. He said that the last few weeks witnessed a Sudanese movement in the Arab arena, including most of its countries, during which [words indistinct] and consultations with the brother Arab kings and presidents on the [words indistinct] situation and its complications as well as the ways to confront them.

President Numayri said: I have recently visited Saudi Arabia and met with His Majesty King Fahd, who told me about the Saudi movement in the Lebanese arena and the efforts to avert the danger of fratricide and partition in Lebanon. He added that the visit was an occasion to hold consultations with the aim of obtaining further support for Sudan's relations with Saudi Arabia in all fields. I care for this objective as much as King Fahd and his aides care for it.

His excellency continued: The past few weeks also witnessed my meeting with my Brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in Khartoum. Such meetings, which are repeatedly held in both countries, are for the purpose of consultation, coordination, and the exchange of viewpoints on common issues and the issues of our Arab nation and African Continent. During this meeting, I heard with great appreciation the results of the European and American tour made by President Husni Mubarak, a tour in which President Mubarak spoke for his Arab nation and its aspiration for justice and peace. President Numayri said: If there is anything to say to the Arab nation through your assembly, it is that Sudan will repeatedly say [words indistinct] that the danger threatening some of us in a common danger. The plot to partition Lebanon is the beginning of the partition of all the Arab entities on sectarian and racial bases. The danger threatening Iraq is an attempt to prevent building Arab military and economic power. The danger threatening the PLO and its leadership is the beginning of the end of the Palestine question, and in fact, the Arab cause.

His excellency said that Sudan will continue to call for real Arab solidarity, unified Arab strategy, and a minimum agreement on what everyone can do to achieve the pan-Arab objective on which nobody differs; namely, liberating the land and saving the Arab countries from disintegration and utter loss.

President Numayri affirmed that Sudan, which is an effective member within its Arab nation, is also an effective member on the African Continent. Sudan is for peace, security, and stability, and against resorting to force to solve disputes between African countries and differences within these countries. Sudan is for dialogue in solving problems. It is also for African cooperation and integration on an equal basis. It was on this basis that Sudan opposed all attempts to disrupt the national unity of Chad. Sudan will continue to back the fraternal Chadian people in preserving their independence, honor, and sovereignty. His excellency continued: We call for peace on the continent and we also work for peace. We do not attack anyone, and we will not allow anyone to attack us. We are [words indistinct] defending our national unity with our lives and properties.

President Numayri said: If in the past few days Khartoum witnessed a seminar of the African socialist parties, it also witnessed a meeting of the foreign ministers of Egypt, Sudan, Zaire, the Central African Republic, and Uganda. This is further proof of Sudan's firm position on the subject of cooperation among the African states.

President Numayri said that the international conflict has become a danger which threatens small nations before big nations. In fact, international conflict has once again switched from political confrontation to armed, hot confrontation. It is threatening world peace with danger and mankind with extinction. Therefore, we have cooperated with the nonaligned nations and the Islamic states in calling for peace and for the ban of nuclear weapons so as to reduce the hotbeds of international conflict. His excellency said: We are for the peace of all world nations, without any prejudice or discrimination. Our move toward the world nations and their move toward us confirms the soundness of our foreign policy, which is based on cooperation among equals. It was within this context that Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu paid his visit to Khartoum during which we discussed the issues of the region and the world as well as the possibility of increasing cooperation between Sudan and Romania in the fields of economic development and trade.

The president continued: The identity of viewpoints during these discussions, the exchange of opinions on world issues, and the Romanian president's visit to Cairo before coming to Khartoum have all afforded us the opportunity to discuss the possibility of establishing a joint Sudanese-Egyptian-Romanian cooperation within the framwork of the Sudanese-Egyptian integration. The president told the Assembly members: Your session marks the beginning of a very important phase during which we hope to pursue the Islamic course of building the Sudanese citizen on the basis of his conviction on and abidance by religious and spiritual values. This is the phase which will firmly establish the efficacy of regional government and its role

in social and economic development and in achieving the revolution's objective of placing authority in the hands of the masses.

President Numayri concluded his speech to the Assembly members by saying: Your session witnesses the implementation of the first phase of the comprehensive political program which was drawn up and approved by the people. We all pledge to carry it out while you are laying the foundations of constitutional and legislative work and following up on national action in all fields.

President Numayri Leaves for Italy 8 Nov
JN081153 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 8 Nov (SUNA) — President Numayri, his wife, and the delegation accompanying them left here this morning for Rome on an official visit to Italy, at the beginning of which he will address the FAO's 22d session tomorrow, Wednesday. Following his visit to Italy, President Numayri will leave for France on an official visit. He will meet with President Francois Mitterrand. Later, President Numayri will leave for a visit to the United States at the invitation of President Ronald Reagan. Presidents Numayri and Reagan will meet on 21 November.

Numayri, Mubarak Hold Talks at Cairo Airport
JN081542 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Nov (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri left Cairo today after ending his talks with President Husni Mubarak. He arrived in Cairo enroute to Rome on an official visit of several days during which he will meet with Italian officials and Pope John Paul II. He will address the FAO session. Mubarak and high-ranking Egyptian officials saw him off at the airport. Presidents Numayri and Mubarak held a press conference following the talks they held in the lounge of the Cairo International Airport which lasted 90 minutes.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Has 'Deep Concern' Over Lebanon Events
LD081638 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2350 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi told TAP that President Habib Bourguiba is following with deep concern the development of events in northern Lebanon. The minister added that at the instructions of the state president he continued today his contacts with the Palestinian leaders currently in Tunis. On the other hand, the minister pointed out that he had telephone conversations with the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Algeria, and Saudi Arabia, and expressed his hope that the contacts which the Arab mission will carry out in Damascus and the Arab efforts will contribute to saving bloodshed and to ending the calamity of fighting between brothers at a time when it is the duty of all to unify ranks in order to preserve the gains of the Arab cause and the Palestine revolution and to confront the Zionist enemy.

Foreign Minister Talks With Chedli Klibi
LD081002 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] A meeting was held tonight between Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. They discussed latest developments in northern Lebanon and Arab initiatives taken to avoid bloodshed and to end the fighting between brothers. After the meeting Chedli Klibi confirmed that the PLO has called for an urgent meeting on the level of Arab foreign ministers to discuss the situation in northern Lebanon.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Statement on Clash With Moroccan Forces
LD080033 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] A statement released in Hawzah yesterday [7 November] by the SDAR Information Ministry said that violent battles took place between the Saharan Liberation Army and the Royal Moroccan Forces. These battles continued from 28 to 31 October. The statement explained that the invader forces were unable to advance in the (Maharis) area as a result of the stiff resistance which met them from elements of the Popular Saharan Liberation Army. The statement noted that the Saharan forces intervened on 26 October in the (Irtimiyyah) area where the Royal Forces are centered. They inflicted on these forces losses in men and equipment.

The Popular Saharan Army, according to the same statement,on 30 October launched a violent attack which went on until 31 October. It forced the Royal Forces to retreat. The Saharan statement explained that the Moroccan forces included four corps, comprising 18,000 soldiers supported by 50 tracked tanks [as heard], and one heavy artillery battalion, one brigade of small tanks, and a number of Mirage F-1 and F-5 planes, and during these operations the Moroccan Army used cluster bombs and antitank bombs. The statement noted that all this confirms the inflexible attitude of the Moroccan king and his insistence not to implement the OAU resolution which was approved with the majority at the 19th OAU summit in Addis Ababa.

DJIBOUTI

President Congratulates Andropov on Anniversary

EA081059 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] The president of the Republic of Djibouti, Hassan Gouled Aptidon, today sent a message of congratulations to President Yuriy Andropov of the Soviet Union. In his message, the president of the republic said: On this occasion of the 66th anniversary of your country's revolution, Mr President, I express heartfelt greetings to you on behalf of the people of Djibouti and on my own behalf. I also hope that the relations between our two peoples and countries will be further strengthened. Finally, the president wished the leader of the Soviet Union good health and prosperity and continued peace for the Soviet people.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Greets Soviet Union on GOSR Anniversary

EA061941 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today congratulated the people, party, and Government of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. In a message to the Soviet head of state and party, Comrade Yuriy Andropov, the PMAC chairman expressed pleasure at the continuing relentless efforts being exerted by the people of the Soviet Union in all spheres of human endeavor to build a communist society. He also noted the immense contributions made by the Soviet Union in the international arena to reduce the danger of war and promote the causes of peace, justice, equality, and progress. On relations between Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, Comrade Mengistu also expressed deep satisfaction over the fact the relations between Ethiopia and the Soviet Union have reached a high degree of cooperation and mutual understanding in all fields.

Delegation Departs for USSR

EA042138 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] A delegation led by Comrade Tesfaye Tadese, member of the COPWE Central Committee and chief editor of *SERTO ADER*, official organ of the Central Committee, left for Moscow today to attend the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution to be observed next week. Comrade Tesfaye said before leaving that the delegation, which will be representing COPWE at the ceremony, will hold talks with the chief editor of the official organ of the CPSU Central Committee to exchange practical experience. Comrade Tesfaye went on to say that the delegation will engage in similar discussions with Agitprop experts from socialist and progressive countries, especially with regard to the ongoing struggle of promoting socialism as a means of preserving world peace and security and of opposing the antipeace policy of imperialism.

Government Denies Harboring Sudanese Opponents

EA081939 Addis Ababa Domestic Service Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia today stated that Khartoum's allegation that Ethiopia is harboring opponents of the Sudanese Government is false and baseless and expressed its disappointment and surprise at the charge. In a statement on the issue a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Ethiopia is surprised that such an allegation should be made by His Excellency President Numayri and the country's vice president. The Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that Ethiopia had never recruited youths from southern Sudan nor harbored opponents working against the desires of the government and people of Sudan, but in fact had played an important role in strengthening the national unity of Sudan.

The spokesman went on to say that Ethiopia values highly its long-standing relations with Sudan and stands for the further strengthening of joint cooperation and understanding for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries. In this respect the spokesman recalled the exchange of visits and agreements signed between the two countries as a result of concrete steps taken by Socialist Ethiopia. The Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that it is disappointing that no similar response has been forthcoming in a way that would promote relations between the two countries in view of Socialist Ethiopia's genuine desire and good will to strengthen close cooperation and understanding.

In conclusion the spokesman stated that Ethiopia's known policy is based on promoting regional cooperation by respecting the unity, national dignity, and territorial integrity of countries and promoting relations based on good-neighborliness.

Voice of Broad Masses Reports TPLF Operations

EA061532 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 6 Nov 83

[Text] The heroic Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] forces killed 16 Dergue soldiers and captured 18 others in their offensive in the environs of (Genora), (Dade gu Cheref), Mekelle, Debarek, and (Dubena) on 9, 13, 14, and 17 October, respectively. TPLF forces permitted 46 Dergue soldiers who surrendered to go to places of their own choice. One captain and one lieutenant were among the Dergue soldiers killed in the environs of Debarek.

Further Action

EA061528 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The heroic people's militia of the Tigre People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement who launched an attack on 24 October destroyed enemy forces stationed in (Mechich) district in the Wollo region of Lasta Province and were in control of (Mekite) town for a day. In the clash 75 dergue soldiers were killed or wounded and 25 soldiers captured along with 15 government employees. In addition our heroic fighters captured 30 assorted weapons, 1 generator, 1

Nissan vehicle, 24 quintals of coffee, (?13) quintals of sugar, 11 quintals of wheat, 1 store full of (?cooking) oil, an assortment of clothing, 50 bed sheets, 15 blankets, 3 barrels of (?diesel), 2,175 [words indistinct] cash, 4 wristwatches, [words indistinct], and other useful enemy property including 5 cars which were later burned. One car was returned to its owner.

KENYA

Moi Speaks on Land Exploitation, Other Issues

EA082222 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi said today that the government is determined to solve all land problems in the country in the shortest time possible. He said that government will not allow a few crafty people to continue exploiting the landless people. President Moi pointed out that the independence we attained was supposed to benefit all, regardless of their status in the society. The president directed the Nakuru district commissioner to ensure that some 400 illegal shareholders enrolled in the Maai-Mahiu farming company were evicted immediately. He said the 400 people had been enrolled by the directors of the company without the knowledge of the legitimate and orginal shareholders. President Moi was addressing a large rally at Naivasha town after officially opening the new Naivasha-Lanet road this afternoon.

At the same time the president ordered the immediate refund of 400 shillings paid by each shareholder of the Ngwataniro land buying company to offset an outstanding debt. Shareholders of the company were required to pay the money last year following a debt incurred by the directors of the company without the knowledge of the shareholders themselves. The president wondered how the bank could give money on the strength of a telephone call from one of the directors. He added that they should have been risking their money and they should now regard it as good as last. The Ngwataniro land company owes the National Bank of Kenya and the Kenya Farmers Association a total of 17.5 million shillings.

President Moi once again lashed at the Kenya cooperative creameries officials who smelt the milk brought to them by dairy farmers and rejected it on that strength. He directed the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development to investigate the problem and added that he no longer would stand such officials.

President Moi commended the Yugoslav Government for its continued assistance to Kenya, noting that Yugoslavia was a founder member of the Nonaligned Movement.

Travelling from Nakuru to Naivasha, President Moi declared that he will no longer tolerate officers who did not take his directives seriously. He regretted that despite his instructions that no child should be sent from school for nonpayment of building fund, some teachers were still doing. The president was speaking to various groups of Wananchi at State House gate, Nakuru High School, and Gilgil.

Official, Egyptian Envoy Discuss Oil Sales

EA081255 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Kenya has been buying Egyptian crude oil at exorbitant prices through a third party, but the two countries are now in the process of reviewing the matter with the aim of establishing direct sales. The Egyptian ambassador to Kenya, Mr Ahmad Haggag, said this when he called on the coast provincial commissioner, Mr Galgalo, in his office in Mombasa. The envoy said that the party, which he did not name, has been making huge profits by selling his country's crude oil to Kenya. He called for the formation of a tourist body between the two countries geared towards the promotion of tourism. In reply, Mr Galgalo expressed Kenya's gratitude to Egypt for her support to the process of decolonization during Kenya's struggle for independence.

SOMALIA

President Greets Andropov on GOSR Anniversary

EA080003 Mogadishu International Service in Amharic 1400 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] President of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, has sent a message of congratulations to the leader of the Soviet Union, Yuriy Andropov, on the occasion of the 66th Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] celebrations. In his message, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre extended felicitations on behalf of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party, the people, and on his own behalf to the people and Government of the USSR on the occasion of the celebrations of the GOSR 66th anniversary.

Mogadishu: WSLF Head Claims 61 Ethiopians Killed

EA081125 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Abd an-Nasir Shaykh Adan, secretary general of the WSLF [Western Somali Liberation Front], today hosted a luncheon for the ELF-PLF [Eritrean Liberation Front-People's Liberation Front] delegation led by Osman Saleh Sabeh. Challe Abd an-Nasir Shaykh Adan and His Excellency Osman Saleh Sabeh exchanged views on how the two peoples of Western Somalia and Eritrea could cooperate in fighting their common enemy and the elements which hinder the unity of the two peoples.

WSLF Secretary General Abd an-Nasir Shaykh Adan disclosed that between October and 1 November 1983 the gallant WSLF fighters killed 61 enemy Abyssinian soldiers and also burned to ashes four artillery pieces. Also present during the luncheon were members of the WSLF Central Committee.

TANZANIA

President Nyerere Greets Andropov on Anniversary

LD081117 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] President Nyerere has hailed the USSR for its great contribution to supporting the liberation struggle in southern Africa. In his message to the USSR leader, Ndugu Yuriy Andropov, on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the country's revolution, Mwalimu said that the USSR's contribution to the struggle is recognized and supported by all peace-loving people in the world and particularly by the developing countries. Mwalimu said that Tanzania is greatly impressed by steps taken by the USSR in strengthening the current friendly relations between the two countries. Mwalimu stressed Tanzania's desire for strengthening the relations to the benefit of the people of the two countries.

Nyerere Envoy Departs for Kenya, Uganda

EA080149 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The principal secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu (Gilman Rutihinda), left for Nairobi today to present a special message from President Nyerere to President Daniel arap Moi. A statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dar es Salaam said that the message is in connection with the procedure to be followed to reach an agreement on sharing the assets of the defunct East African Community. The statement said that after presenting the message, Ndugu (Rutihinda) will leave for Kampala, Uganda to present a similar message to President Milton Obote.

President Nyerere said in New York early last month that the three countries were nearing agreement on sharing the assets and liabilities of the community. Mwalimu said the countries would reach an agreement next month or the beginning of next year. Talks on the procedure to be followed in sharing the assets and liabilities of the East African Community started in 1977 immediately after the breakup of the community.

UGANDA

Obote Congratulates Andropov on Anniversary

EA071232 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] President Obote has expressed satisfaction at the role played by the Soviet Union in the search for international peace and security. In a message of congratulations to President Yuriy Andropov on the occasion of the 66th anniversary of the Soviet Great October Revolution, Dr Obote said: I wish on behalf of the government and the people of Uganda and on my own behalf to send you, the government and the people of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics congratulations and best wishes. We note with satisfaction the role played by the Soviet Union, he said, in the struggle for freedom and independence of the oppressed people all over the world. The president expressed confidence that the ties of friendship and cooperation that exist between Uganda and the Soviet Union will be further strengthened. Dr Obote conveyed his best wishes for his personal good health and continued prosperity for the people of the Soviet Union.

Meeting Discusses Trade Cooperation With Sudan

EA081112 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Uganda and the Sudan have reaffirmed the need to expand and promote the volume of trade between the two countries. This was announced in Kampala today after a meeting between the visiting Sudanese delegation led by the minister of state for commerce and cooperatives, Mr Ahmad Salim Ahmad, and the Uganda side headed by the minister of commerce, Mr Aliro Omara. The two sides hailed the long-standing cooperation that has been existing between the two countries and hoped that it will be strengthened further. Mr Ahmad Salim Ahmad stressed the importance his country attaches to the establishment of close friendly (?relations) with her neighbors. The Sudanese delegation tabled a trade protocol draft which will be discussed first before it is signed tomorrow. Earlier the delegation, accompanied by Mr Aliro Omara, visited Mbale, Jinja, and Kayunga.

CHAD

Bardai Comments on French Withdrawal Proposal

AB072205 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] What we felt about the leader of the national annihilation force's trip to Gbadolite has now been confirmed. Strongly preoccupied by trouble spreading in the zone under Franco-Zairian occupation, the sinister blackmailer Hissein Habre effectively decided the issue with Zairian dictator and warmonger Mobutu Sese Seko. According to our permanent correspondent, the Ndjamena traitor and his companion, the monster of Mont N'galiama, in the presence of their American, Israeli, and South African military advisers, allegedly drew up a plan to recapture the regions of the south which were affected by the civil war.

By this joint military formula in Chad, the two agents of the CIA and their Western strategists have agreed to launch new offensives in order to stop the active resistance of the patriots in the south of the country. The arrival in Ndjamena of more than 15 Zairian officers was within the framework of this planned operation which was immediately launched. But to attack the positions of the National Liberation Army [ANL] commando group is one thing while to succeed is quite another. In fact, according to the latest news published by AFP, the attacks of the joint Zairian-CAR-FAN forces under the French military umbrella ended in a fiasco. The National Liberation Army's commandos did not limit themselves to repelling the barbarous attacks of foreign forces.

This deterioration in the military situation in the south of the country coincided with the presence in Addis Ababa of two special French envoys, namely, Guy Penne and Jean-Christophe Mitterrand. In the Ethiopian capital, the special advisers of Francois Mitterrand delivered the French president's message to his Ethiopian counterpart, Mengistu Haile-Mariam, the current chairman of the OAU. On this occasion, the leader of the French delegation expressed the hope to see the OAU accelerate the national reconciliation process in Chad. France, Guy Penne said, is ready to withdraw its forces from Chad if the situation improves. Thus, the mission of the two French envoys [words indistinct] diplomatic transactions for the solution of the Chadian conflict.

What one can underline about the proposal of the French president's envoys is the link made between the withdrawal of troops and the improvement in the situation in Chad. What does that mean? Does the improvement in the Chadian situation mean the end of providing training, arms, and other assistance that has occupied the French forces in Chad, or does that mean the stabilization of the area under French protection? The fact is for some time now, as shown by several French newspapers and magazines, France's program of training the rest of the antinational FAN forces has been intensified. The training of the FAN elements in the use of offensive and defensive weapons, such as mortars, rockets, antimortars, and anti-aircraft missiles is continuing steadily. At any rate, the French have ceaselessly repeated to their FAN pupils that in the worst of cases, they should do everything possible to use their power to settle the Chadian conflict, and to work discretely toward the establishment of a force of reconquest while they work toward national reconciliation. These are the two joint steps being taken in Chad by the Elysee. The forces of the Transitional National Union Government would really be naive if they did not take into account this reality.

Bardai Cites Amnesty International on FAN

AB080755 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Regionalism, tribalism, and religious differences, which have been engrained into a system of government by the adventurist Ndjamena clique and whose direct consequences are arbitrary arrests, torture, assassinations, and barbarous extortions to which the Chadian masses have fallen victim and which we have always denounced, have been confirmed by various written reports received and verified by Amnesty International. We hereby announce to you the entire press statement reissued by the French branch of Amnesty in which the humanitarian organization denounced these assassinations committed outside combat areas. This statement was issued on 10 October 1983 and was either referred to only briefly or kept silent by the imperialist press, which is abetting these atrocities.

Today Amnesty International declares that over the last 15 months FAN soldiers have killed more than 160 civilians, especially in the towns and villages far away from the combat areas. Several of these noncombatants were killed during the reprisals the authorities seemed to have carried out following attacks (?against) the FAN government. Some local civil servants whose fidelity to FAN leader Hissein Habre became suspicious were also among the victims, the world movement for the defense of human rights said.

According to detailed reports reaching Amnesty International, the troops of President Habre tortured and killed civilians in many places in the south after he assumed power in June 1982. According to Amnesty International, the assassination, torture, and arbitrary extortions continued this year, especially in the border areas outside the combat zones. Amnesty International has no news of many people whose loyalty has been questioned and who have been arrested for this reason (?on the orders) of the FAN.

The organization has appealed to Hissein Habre to release the list of these detainees. It also appealed to the FAN to allow an international organization to visit the prisoners in order to see the conditions in which they are being detained. Among the examples given are eyewitness reports. Amnesty International cites vengeance assassinations committed by the FAN in the Doba region in southern Chad. Following sporadic attacks on cotton depots by opponents, the troops entered about 15 villages in the area in April 1983 and beat up the people and killed about 40 people who were apparently selected at random. The FAN elements carried out dozens of similar arbitrary assassinations in the region of Moundou, in the south of the country, between September and December 1982. In September 1982, Coyol Lingaliou, the pre-

fect of the Moundou region, was allegedly executed in the presence of his family by FAN soldiers after his car had been stopped at a roadside workshop.

The body of Yapo Balaye Laye, the police superintendent of Laye, was found in Ndjamena on 15 August 1983 with torture marks. He was allegedly arrested by FAN elements on 30 July. According to coherent reports reaching Amnesty International, several civil servants were summarily killed apparently because of their former relations or their family ties. According to the latest reports received by the organization, these assassinations still continue. Concerning the detention of more than 2,500 war prisoners, whom the two sides said they have captured and (?imprisoned), Amnesty International has appealed to the leaders of the two groups for detailed information regarding the fate of the prisoners.

RWANDA

President Greets Andropov on Anniversary

EA081104 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Today President of the Republic Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza sent a message of congratulations to his Soviet counterpart, Yuriy Andropov, on the occasion of the USSR's national day. Here is the content of the message:

To His Excellency Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR in Moscow: Mr President, on the occasion of your country's national day I am very pleased to send to you on behalf of the people of Rwanda and its government and on my own behalf my warm congratulations as well as my sincere wishes of happiness and good health for Your Excellency [word indistinct] and much prosperity for the friendly people of the USSR. May the current excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries be further strengthened for the mutual benefit of our respective two peoples.

With great respect, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza.

ZAIRE

AFP: River Border With Congo Reopened

AB081510 Paris AFP in English 1140 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Kinshasa, Nov 8 (AFP) — The Zaire river border between Zaire and Congo has been reopened, Information Minister Sakombi Inongo announced after a cabinet meeting yesterday. The five-km (three miles) river border, which separates Kinshasa and Brazzaville, was closed on September 17 by the Zairean authoritatives for what they called reasons of "internal control". Mr Sakombi said the closure had been due to "an intense movement of numerous irregular and undesirable Europeans and Africans" between the two capitals. The situation had now returned to normal, he said.

The same cabinet meeting decided to reduce the price of petroleum products, excepting super and regular grade petrol (gasoline). The price of gasoil was reduced by about a third, and the price of domestic fuel by nearly half. It was the first meeting of the cabinet since a major government re-shuffle carried out by the head of state, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, a week ago.

NIGER

'Strict Measures' Taken To Prevent Epidemic

AB081230 Paris AFP in English 1051 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Niamey, Nov 8 (AFP) — Niger has taken strict measures to prevent an epidemic of yellow fever from spreading over its border from Upper Volta. Although no cases have been reported in Niger, the authorities have ordered half a million doses of vaccine, including 200,000 from the World Health Organization. Three mobile vaccination stations have been patrolling the 200 kilometer (125 mile) border for several days. At the border towns of Makalondi and Torodi, on the road between Ouagadougou and Niger, travellers are obliged to be vaccinated and wait the two week incubation period before entering Niger. The measures have caused long queues of vehicles, whose occupants have to cope with the unexpected delay as best they can.

At Niamey a vaccination programme is already underway, and authorities are confident they will have enough vaccine to last until the dry season brings a decline in the disease by drying up the water sources where it originates. The only problems are a possible delay in the supply of the vaccines (110,000 are due in the next few days), and the difficulty in stocking them, sometimes in the temperatures of minus 20 degrees centigrade. The most recent figures, published yesterday by the Ouagadougou weekly *CARREFOUR AFRICAIN*, gave the death toll in Upper Volta as 245 on October 27.

NIGERIA

Senate Approves 29 Shagari Nominations

AB082225 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Senate today approved 29 of the 35 nominees of President Shehu Shagari for ministerial appointments. This follows the adoption of the recommendation of its Committee on Public Services, Establishment, and Manpower which screened them. Those whose nominations were passed include six former ministers, Alhaji Umaru Dikko, Kaduna State; Mallam Adamu Ciroma, Borno State; Mr Audu Ogbeh, Benue; Chief Etend Okoi-Obuli, Cross River; Dr Ishmael Igbani, Rivers, and Alhaji Biliamisu Usman, Kano. The former Nigerian permanent representative at the United Nations, Alhaji Yusuf Maitama Sule, Kano; a former special assistant to the president, Mr John Nwodo Jr, Anambra; a former deputy governor in Oyo State, Chief Sunday Afolabi; and the former chairman of the Nigerian External Telecommunications, NET, Dr Ibrahim Tahir of Bauchi, also had their nominations confirmed.

The women are also in the list of the successful nominees. They are Dr Bimbo Akintola, Oyo; and Mrs Simi Johnson, Lagos state.

Others include a former commissioner in Ondo State, Dr Bode Olowoporokun, a commissioner in Imo State during the military regime; Dr Emmanuel Adiele, the former chairman of the Nigerian paper mill; Alhaji Haliru Dantoro from Kwara State; as well as two senators, Alhaji Idriss Ibrahim, Niger, and Alhaji Hamisu Musa, Kano State. The senate also granted approval to the nominations of Chief Kehinde Shofola, Ogun; Alhaji Mohamed Buhari, Borno; Alhaji Hassan Mohamed and Mr Robert Gumut, both of Plateau State; Dr A.J. Okono of Cross River State and Mr Paul Wampana of Gongola State. Others are Alhaji Ismaila Issa of Kaduna State, Alhaji Mahamadu Lugar, Alhaji Idriss Popo, and Alhaji Bala Sokoto, all from Sokoto State.

Those dropped include Alhaji Ali Baba, a minister in the last administration; a former chairman of the Public Service Commission, Alhaji Sule Katagum; and a deputy secretary general of the commonwealth, Chief Chukuemeka Anyaoku. Others are Mr Ralph Uwechuw, Chief J.A. Orhorho, and Mrs Ethel Diete Spiff. The six have had some allegations made against their suitability for ministerial posts.

Meanwhile Senator Alfred Nzeribe of Imo State has suggested that President Shehu Shagari should furnish the Senate with further information about those dropped for further consideration, pointing out that justice should be seen to have been done in their cases, but a member of the screening committee, Senator P.E. Echeruo, says the report was a fair and just reflection of the intensive investigation carried out by the committee.

A Radio Nigeria National Assembly correspondent said to qualify for confirmation, a nominee must have gained the acceptance of at least 7 of the 13 members on the screening committee.

Army Chief Says Modern Machinery Being Acquired

AB081514 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Nigerian Army is acquiring modern machinery as part of efforts to adequately protect the peace and security of the country. The chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General M.I. Wushishi, stated this while addressing senior Army officers yesterday at the opening of the 1983 Chief of Army Staff Annual Conference.

He said that Nigeria could not afford to be passive but must seek to achieve a recognized international status. Lt Gen Wushishi urged the officers to operate with strict discipline at this period of austerity through a judicious utilization of scarce resources.

500 Illegal Aliens Rounded Up in Lagos

AB081420 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] About 500 illegal aliens were rounded up by the police over the weekend in Lagos. Most of them are from the Gambia and Senegal. Others are from Mali, Guinea-Bissau, and Sierra Leone.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent reports that the illegal aliens were arrested at the Ekerele area of Surulere in Lagos. Meanwhile, arrangements are going on between the Nigeria police and the Immigration Department to ensure their immediate deportation.

TOGO

Eyadema Leaves for Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast

AB081745 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding-chairman of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT] and president of the republic, left for Yamoussoukro in the Ivory Coast for afriendly working visit. This visit falls within the framework of the periodic consultations between the heads of state of the Ivory Coast and Togo, Their Excellencies Felix Houphouet-Boigny and Gnassingbe Eyadema. On his arrival this morning at the Lome Tokoin International Airport at about 0930, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema spent a few moments at the VIP lounge before going through the usual departure ceremony: The national anthem performed by the Togolese Armed Forces Band, the review of troops under the command of Captain Sassaka, and the customary salute of senior Army officials, and members of the Central Committee. The founding-chairman of the RPT then boarded the DC-10 plane draped in the colors of the national flags. The plane took off at about 0945 for Yamoussoukro.

Returns From Visit

AB082035 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Within the framework of the periodic consultations between Togo and the Ivory Coast, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the republic and founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People, made a friendly, working visit to Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, today. The head of state, who left Lome in the morning, returned this afternoon.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara, Rawlings Speak at Exercise Ceremony

AB082040 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The 5-day joint military exercise between selected units of the Ghana Armed Forces and their Upper Voltan counterparts, codenamed "Exercise Bold Union," ended at Po in Upper Volta today. The closing ceremony was addressed by the two heads of state, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings and Captain Thomas Sankara.

In his address, the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lt Rawlings, said there are basically few things that divide the peoples of Third World countries. One is economic philosophy, and because this concept is not understood, the enemies are resolute to divide the revolutionary process in the two countries. He observed that by the exercise, the two countries have opened a new chapter in their history. On the revolutionary process in the two countries, Flight Lt Rawlings assured the soldiers that the two countries are on the right track. He advised them to build up more confidence in the revolutionary process and not to feel threatened by the maneuvers of the enemies.

Flight Lt Rawlings observed that there are some Third World countries which have not yet attained what Ghana and Upper Volta have achieved. He advised the troops not to feel complacent about their performance in the exercise, but to endeavor to improve upon it for the benefit of purpose. On his part, the chairman of the People's Redemption Council and head of state of Upper Volta, Capt Thomas Sankara, noted that the revolutionary process and the joint military maneuvers have created both internal and external enemies who feel threatened by what is going on.

Paper Gives Latest Figures on Yellow Fever

AB081100 Paris AFP in French 1635 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 7 Nov (AFP) — The weekly newspaper *CARREFOUR AFRICAIN published in its latest edition which* came out on Monday higher mortality figures for the yellow fever outbreak than those quoted by the Upper Voltan Ministry of Health. According to this (government) newspaper, as of 27 October, 210 cases of yellow fever had been recorded with 182 deaths at Fada Ngourma [word indistinct] kms east of Ouagadougou, 63 cases with 33 deaths at Tenkodougou, [number indistinct] kms south-east of Ouagadougou, and 40 cases with 30 deaths at Manga, 100 kms south-east of Ouagadougou. On 27 October, Dr Abdoul Salam Kabore, minister of health, announced 150 fatal cases of which 85 percent were children from 1 to 15 years old. The newspaper states that the situation is not alarming and adds that as of 28 October the widespread vaccination against yellow fever continued intensively. *CARREFOUR AFRICAIN*, however, does not include cases of people in the remote areas, especially the Fulani nomads, among which 352 cases were recorded on 28 October according to the WHO.

ANGOLA

Cuban-Chaired Cooperation Seminar Ends 4 Nov

MB050900 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] A total of 25 officials from international exchange departments of 9 national organizations received lessons on international cooperation during a course on the subject which closed in Luanda yesterday. The seminar on international cooperation was sponsored by the Human Resources Department of the Secretariat of State for Cooperation and was chaired by Cuban specialists from the Economic Cooperation Committee. The participants to the seminar received certificates yesterday. Secretary of State for Cooperation Carlos Fernandes presided over the closing session of the year-long seminar.

BOTSWANA

President Masire Addresses Parliament on Elections

MB081720 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1546 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Gaborone, Nov 8, SAPA — Botswana's political parties are gearing for general elections expected to be held early next year. At the final session of Parliament, President Quett Masire called for the strengthening of democracy in the country and a massive drive to ensure eligible voters registered for the elections, the first to be held since the death of former leader, Dr Seretse Khama in July 1980. In his address, Dr Masire said citizens should be "vigilant to distinguish those unscrupulous politicians who capitalised on divisive issues, solely to win a few votes from those who have the long-term national interest at heart."

No date has been announced for the elections, but the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] has until October next year to call a poll. The last general election, in October 1979, installed the BDP for a five-year term with a formidable majority in Parliament. Parties who will contest the election include the socialist Botswana National Front, the Botswana Peoples Party, the Progressive Union and the Botswana Liberal Party, which was founded only last week.

Dr Masire told the house today that the government had accepted the task of mobilising the people of Botswana "to be prepared to defend our democratic tradition. The concept of independence and self-determination would be greatly devalued unless elections are treated with the seriousness they deserve in a truly representative democracy," Dr Masire said.

Commenting on the South African situation, the president said conflict would be halted only if there was "face-to-face" negotiation involving all people in the republic. The Botswana Government also condemned the insistence of South Africa and the United States to link a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola with an independence settlement in SWA/Namibia.

Foreign Minister Marks Soviet Anniversary

MB081609 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The Russian ambassador to Botswana, Mr Mikhail Petrov, has said relations between the governments and peoples of Botswana and the Soviet Union are cordial. Mr Petrov said this yesterday evening in a toast to mark the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The ceremony was held at the residence of the ambassador. The BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY reports that hundreds of dignitaries and members of the diplomatic corps present at the ceremony saw the minister of external affairs, Mr Archibald Mogwe, together with the ambassador toast the well-being of the presidents and peoples of the two countries.

Students of the University of Botswana yesterday sent a message of greetings to the Soviet ambassador on the occasion. In the message the students said that since the Great October Revolution developments in the world had been characterized by the ever widening contradictions between the dynamic and ever strengthening socialist system and the decadent capitalist system. They said the October Revolution ushered in a new era in the historical evolution of mankind.

LESOTHO

SAPA: King Departs for Sweden, England 8 Nov

MB081709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1347 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Maseru, Nov 8, SAPA — Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe left Maseru today for Sweden. He has been invited by the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation to address an international conference at Uppsala from November 10 to 13. The king will visit the United Kingdom on his way back.

MADAGASCAR

Verdict Delivered on Trial of 45 'Plotters'

MB090909 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The news this morning is dominated by the verdict passed on the case of (Ramaroson) and fellow plotters. After almost 6 hours of deliberations, the ordinary criminal courts at (Anousou) in Antananarivo presided over by Mr (Ramanayende Francois) delivered its verdict at about 1935 last evening. Out of the 45, 16 were acquitted. As for the others, they received sentences ranging from a fine to life imprisonment with forced labor. Thus, Mr (Radiocyre Aime Eric) has been sentenced to life imprisonment with forced labor. Mr (Gaston Ramarason) received 10 years imprisonment with forced labor, and (Adriana Emile) and (Andrianarjoun Amarjoun) each received 6 years imprisonment with no possibility of remission. (Razanakoutou Martin), (Razanasalama Robert), (Razanapara Andritore), (Angemanapou Jean de Dieu), (Abeymanajara Jean Pierre), (Ramandarapi Pierre), (Rakoutoumana Artema), (Andrianja

Ansoune Hermane), [name indistinct] (Eric), (Ratsiriane Philbert), (Ratsirani Patrice), (Rakoutoume Jerome), (Larale Indou Philibert), (Rakoutouarson Andriananjara Philibert), (Andrianarson Michel), (Rakoutouarson Roumou Jean Pierre), (Rabouarson Georges), and (Ransimba Jacques) each received 3 years imprisonment with no posssibility of remission. Mrs (Ramarson Chalolpe) was given a 50,000 Malagasy franc suspended fine.

We recall that (Gaston Ramaroson) and fellow plotters were charged with plotting to carry out violent acts against the internal security of the state, acts and activities of which could endanger public security, acquiring and keeping arms illegally, carrying arms illegally, seditious activity that could endanger the national defense, stealing arms and [word indistinct], wearing uniforms illegally, using violence (?against the people), forming a commando group, misusing communal property, and disregarding freedom of work.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Begins Talks With U.S. Delegation 8 Nov

MB081100 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Official talks between a high-ranking delegation of the People's Republic of Mozambique led by President Samora Machel and a U.S. delegation led by Frank Wisner, deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, began in Maputo this morning. The Mozambique delegation includes Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, Minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs Jacinto Veloso, Bank of Mozambique Governor Prakash Ratilal, and Mozambique's Ambassador-designate to Washington Valeriano Ferrao. In addition to the head of the American delegation, Frank Wisner, the American side also includes the U.S. ambassador to Mozambique and four aides of the deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

Machel Receives Cape Verde, U.S. Envoys

MB051220 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Marshal Samora Machel received in Maputo this morning the credentials of the ambassadors of the Republic of Cape Verde and the United States, Aguinaldo Lisboa Ramos and Peter Jon de Vos, respectively. Speaking to the Cape Verde ambassador to our country, President Samora Machel welcomed him to the southern region of Africa, which he described as a troubled zone where exploitation and colonialism still exist. Referring to the Namibian problem in particular, the Mozambique head of state said that there is no reason for the delay in the independence of that territory, which is illegally occupied by South Africa. The Cape Verdian diplomat spoke about the traditional links between the two peoples and stressed the need to diversify and strengthen the existing relations between the two countries.

Receiving the credentials of the U.S. ambassador to Mozambique, President Samora Machel said that countries which are born out of arms know the value of independence and freedom, as well as the final objectives: progress, well-being, and peace. This is the general feeling of Mozambique, the Mozambique head of state said. He added that when a people struggle, it is for equality, justice, and peace. The marshal of the republic said that this is lacking in southern Africa. The American diplomat hailed the role played by Mozambique, particularly by President Samora Machel, in the search for solutions to the problems of southern Africa.

Interior Minister Hails Soviet Anniversary

MB081545 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Mozambique and the Soviet Union yesterday defended once again the importance and the need of pursuing and safeguarding a policy of peace and cooperation in the world. This stand was expressed by Interior Minister Armando Guebuza on behalf of the Mozambique Government and by Soviet Ambassador to Mozambique Yuriy Sepelev during a function given by the latter marking the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

In their speeches Guebuza and Sepelev mentioned the importance of the October Revolution for the peoples of the world, considering the increasing number of peoples and countries that have been freed from exploitation of man by man. Referring to southern Africa, the Soviet ambassador mentioned the racist South African regime, which, through apartheid, imposes the most violent repression upon the South African people, and which in Namibia continues to colonize the people of that country. Sepelev vigorously condemned South African aggression against the frontline states as well.

At this function, Minister Guebuza and Ambassador Sepelev also spoke about the relations between Mozambique and the Soviet Union, which are continuously growing and strengthening in various fields. The Mozambique minister said that the USSR has been on the side of the Mozambique people, particularly in the most decisive and crucial moments of Mozambique's life.

NAMIBIA

Party Leaders Comment on UK Protectorate Proposal

MB080823 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The president of the Democratic Turnhale Alliance, Chief Riruako, has rejected the proposals of five British parliamentarians that SWA/Namibia should become a South African protectorate for the forseeable future. Chief Riruako said in a statement to the SWA/Namibia Broadcasting Cooperation in Windhoek that it was an insult to the people of the territory to suggest they should remain subordinate to South Africa.

The leader of the National Party in SWA/Namibia, Mr Kosie Pretorius, says although he does not agree with all the particulars of the report by the British parliamentarians, he welcomes the finding that the territory is not yet ready for independence. He

says the reestablishment of South Africa's authority over the territory should eliminate a large amount of misunderstanding.

Dispute Among SWAPO Leading Figures Reported

MB081703 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 2 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Continuing differences in the top echelons of SWAPO on how the South-West African offensive should now be conducted could shortly lead to three leading figures finally parting company with Sam Nujoma. Information which was made available during the past few days is that Nujoma, as SWAPO leader, flatly refuses to return to South-West Africa. The three people involved maintain that the final say on South-West Africa's future will take place in the territory itself, and they want to return now.

One of the men involved is a man of international standing and a regular SWAPO spokesman on important developments. At this stage his name cannot be divulged for security reasons. The three are also prepared to serve jail sentences imposed either by SWAPO or the South African authorities, because it would make martyrs of them, thereby strengthening their political activity.

The three SWAPO rebels believe that Hendrik Witbooi of Namaland, who was earlier this year designated vice president of SWAPO with the obvious aim of promoting internal politics, does not possess the political acumen for the task. The three also believe that a settlement of the South-West African question could be reached unexpectedly and that SWAPO would be caught unawares with its best politicians abroad.

Three SWAPO Insurgents Reportedly Killed

MB071603 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 7 Nov 83

[Text] Three SWAPO terrorists were shot dead by the security force in South-West Africa on Friday after an attack by terrorists on a camp near Rundu. The territory force headquarters says in a statement issued in Windhoek this afternoon that a small group of terrorists opened fire on a camp belonging to the Department of Agriculture. There were no injuries. A reaction force later made contact with a group of six terrorists and killed three.

SOUTH AFRICA

Cabinet Committee Meets, Discusses Urban Blacks

MB081022 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 8 Nov 83 p 1

[By Chris Freimond, political correspondent]

[Text] The government's high-powered think tank on the constitutional future of blacks outside the national states met in Pretoria yesterday and is understood to have mapped out a preliminary programme for its task. The Cabinet Committee, headed by the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, is expected to become one of the main focuses of the Nationalist's "reform" initiative in the coming months. With the referendum behind it, the government is likely to give increasing attention to the urban black situation — a mammoth problem for which no satisfactory answers have been offered by the National Party.

Yesterday's meeting of more than an hour was also attended by the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha. The committee, appointed in February, includes the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, the minister of internal affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, and the minister of national education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

Repeatedly during the referendum campaign government spokesmen ducked questions on how the political aspirations of urban blacks living permanently outside the national states would be accommodated. They said the Cabinet Committee would investigate the matter. Senior Nationalists have indicated that they hope to consult a wide range of black leaders during the deliberations of the committee.

Plan for Negotiations With Blacks Outlined

MB061100 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 6 Nov 83 pp 1,2

[By Brian Pottinger]

[Text] The Government will soon unveil a dramatic new plan for negotiations with black leaders. It will invite homeland and urban leaders to create a broadly-based forum in which to discuss the constitutional future of blacks living outside the homelands. By asking blacks to form their own, representative negotiating team, Pretoria hopes to defuse accusations that it is willing to deal only with leaders of its own choosing. This post-referendum move — which could be announced this month — was revealed to the *SUNDAY TIMES* yesterday by a highly-placed Pretoria source.

The Government is moving gingerly into this sensitive terrain, but the move is clearly designed to keep up the momentum of reform following its landslide victory in this week's referendum. The creation of new white-black negotiating machinery is described as the fulfilment of Government referendum promises that the new constitution — restricted to bringing coloureds and Indians into central government — did not mean the end of black constitutional development.

A previous move by Government to create a black council to work parallel with the President's Council was rejected out of hand by black leaders. This time, however, Pretoria is trying to allay suspicion by also involving black leaders who are not members of Government created structures.

The government is acting with extreme circumspection in its anxiety to demonstrate that blacks themselves should determine the form the forum will take rather than presenting them with an accomplished fact. Government sources also believe that it will help to defuse potential coloured and Indian opposition to implementation of the new constitution by taking the black issue

out of the debate. The forum will work in tandem with the Cabinet Committee which was appointed earlier this year to find a credible constitution niche for urban blacks.

Establishment of the forum is only one of a series of post-referendum moves, many expected before the end of the month, by a Government buttressed by an overwhelming mandate, facing a bruised opposition and needing urgent coloured and Indian endorsement. These include:

— Moves to open the country's central business districts to traders of all races as recommended nearly four years ago by the Riekert Commission and since endorsed by organised commerce and many local authorities. Legislation is expected during the next parliamentary session. Residential segregation will not be scrapped, but the admission of all races to central business districts could be an important "climate-setter" before the coloured and Indian referendums or elections.

— Publication of the Government white paper on the De Lange report on educational reform which was quietly put on the back burner until the referendum was over and the right-wing threat defused.

— Announcements on the broad philosophy of funding for local authorities — key elements in the Government's third-tier constitutional proposals. The permanent finance liaison committee has submitted its recommendations which are being studied by Ministers before consideration by full Cabinet.

In Government circles there is hope the broad philosophy of local government funding, which involves new sources for local authority finance, will be known before November 26 when the black local authority elections take place. Wide-ranging discussion on detail and implementation would still have to follow any Government decision on the committee's recommendations.

The site of the constitutional battle has also shifted from the white electorate to the Coloured and Indian communities. Early meetings between the Prime Minister and Coloured and Indian leaders are on the cards. South African Indian Council is scheduled to meet the Prime Minister on November 14, but no date has been set for the coloured leaders.

But enjoying top priority in the Government's immediate post-referendum plans is the creation of the black forum to negotiate on black constitutional issues. It is understood that discreet approaches have already been made to various black leaders. At present the Government hopes to draw homeland leaders, recognised urban black representatives and other community leaders into the debate. Eventually it is hoped one forum representing all these interests will be created to liaise directly with Government, but in the interim separate forums could be established.

One of the major problems the Government will have to face in composing the forum is the resistance of influential political figures to co-operation with blacks who work in Government-created structures. A second problem is Government insistence that black constitutional development will have to take place along a separate path to that being mapped out for whites, Coloureds and Indians.

The idea of a black forum has been in circulation for some time and was even obliquely referred to by Government leaders in referendum speeches. But with a massive yes vote now tucked under its belt, it accepts that parallel constitutional development for blacks must be visible to be believed.

Although possible participants have not been named, it is almost certain that Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, Chief Minister of Kwazulu, will be invited to become prominently involved.

In establishing the forum the Government is also going to have to work hard to counter antangonisms which have built up over black exclusion from the proposed new constitution. Leaders of the self-governing homelands and one independent homeland banded together to slam the constitution, while angry voices were raised in even such moderate circles such as the National African Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Community Councils.

Further Reaction to 2 Nov Referendum Outcome

Transkei Leader Comments

MB081716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1550 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Umtata, Nov 8, SAPA — Urban blacks did not understand the philosophy of segregation and would not surrender their citizenship rights by aligning themselves with any of the so-called homelands, President Kaiser Matanzima of Transkei said here at the weekend.

Commenting on the overwhelming "yes" vote in South Africa's referendum and how it could affect thousands of Transkeians working outside Transkei, President Matanzima said blacks had not, since 1910, been citizens of South Africa.

The result of the white referendum was irrelevant, considering the oppression of blacks by whites since the enactment of such laws as the Land Act, the Urban Areas Act, the Immorality Act, and many others. He said the "yes" vote was a matter of convenience to whites alone: They would continue with their colour bar laws while seeking black collaboration.

Indians and Coloureds would have to decide whether they were blacks or whites and declare their support accordingly. He said he wanted to align the position of Transkeians with that of the people of Italy working in France, of the people of Britain working in France or of the French working in Britain. "There is nothing new about people coming from one country to work in another.

Our position in Transkei should be clear. We know the boundaries of our country. Most of our land is occupied by the whites. This cannot be tolerated, and that is why we will join the struggle for liberation to get all our land back," said President Matanzima. "Transkeians are politically too advanced to be bluffed. They know what freedom means and will not support any half-a-loaf-is-better-than-nothing policy. They know what it is to suffer and will intensify the struggle for liberation," he said.

ANC Official Cited

EA081307 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 7 Nov 83

[ANC program]

[Text] Compatriots: As you all know, during the 2 November all-white referendum last week a great majority of the white community in South Africa [word indistinct] the fascist leader Botha to go ahead with his constitutional farce, a constitution which has been denounced from all quarters. Leading member of the ANC, Comrade Reginald September, sees the recent maneuvers by the Botha-Malan regime to come about with that new constitution as another defense strategy of the apartheid regime to sustain white minority rule in our country.

He notes that mainly the Botha-Malan regime is by itself a military regime, and he further goes back to trace this constitutional maneuver way back in 1909-10, when the first constitution was promulgated in South Africa, denying the black majority of any right to Parliament in South Africa, and thus rhetorically poses the question: Why is this reversal by the Botha-Malan clique today? As he sees it, it is part and parcel of the military approach of defending white minority rule. [Passage indistinct]

UK State Minister Departs; Remarks Reported

Referendum Results

MB081836 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The British minister of state responsible for African affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, says the British Government has noted with very great interest the result of the South African referendum. Speaking at Jan Smuts Airport before leaving for London, Mr Rifkind said that he had noted in particular the remarks of the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, that the South African Government saw the result as a mandate for evolutionary reform. He said a lot of people would be interested to see what exactly was meant by the phrase evolutionary reform.

Mr Rifkind said it was unclear at this stage what sort of fundamental change the South African Government might be proposing or contemplating. He said the British Government's reaction would be one of waiting and seeing as to what exactly was likely to be the consequences of the changes that had taken place and were going to take place.

Many white South Africans he had encountered during his visit wanted to see reform and significant political change. Mr Rifkind said it was difficult for him as an outsider to be clear about whether the sort of changes the South African Government was prepared to contemplate would be enough to meet even the minimum aspirations of the black community. Mr Rifkind had been on a southern African tour which also took in Angola and Zimbabwe.

Cuban Withdrawal, Namibia

MB090720 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Nov 83

[Text] The British minister of state responsible for Africa at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, says one should not assume that Cuban troops in Angola will move into South-West Africa should the territory become independent before a Cuban withdrawal from Angola. But the West, in particular, would view any suggestion of a Cuban movement out of Angola into any neighboring country as a most serious development. Mr Rifkind was interviewed by the South African Broadcasting Corporation shortly before his return to Britain, after a southern African tour which also included Zimbabwe and Angola.

Mr Rifkind said the British kept to the view that the issue of foreign troops in Angola, including South African troops and the South-West African settlement drive, were connected, but he did not believe that the one should be a precondition for the other. Mr Rifkind said that although the British Government condemned terrorism, it did not agree with punitive raids into neighboring countries. Addressing newsmen before his departure from Jan Smuts Airport, Mr Rifkind said that he had indicated to the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, that in his talks with officials in Zimbabwe and Angola, it had been made clear to him that South Africa's neighbors were concerned about what they perceived to be attempted destabilization of their areas. He said that from his government's point of view, anything that increased tension or diminished trust in the subcontinent was to be deplored.

Questioned about the presence of ANC and SWAPO offices in Britain, Mr Rifkind said the British position was simple and straightforward. That was: If organizations with offices in Britain obeyed British law, no action would be taken against them. During his stay in South Africa, Mr Rifkind held talks with Cabinet ministers, members of opposition parties, and representatives of the black community. He will report to the British foreign secretary on his return to London.

Study Urges Trade Cooperation With SADCC

MB081548 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The South African Foreign Trade Organization [SAFTO] says South Africa should foster a more balanced trade by creating markets for exports from member-countries of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC]. A statement issued in Johannesburg says that a SAFTO study published in the organization's annual report emphasizes the need for balanced economic development between the various states of southern Africa. SAFTO feels that the SADCC and the South African Customs Union have a common need to sell their goods to the rest of the world and that within this field there are few conflicting interests and numerous benefits to be gained. The SAFTO study calls for joint export development programs by the private sector to promote the trade interests of the entire region of southern Africa.

Koeberg Nuclear Power Station Fueling Completed

MB081529 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] The fueling of the first unit of the Koeberg nuclear power station near Cape Town has been completed. Loading operations began at the end of last month. The regional manager in the Western Cape, Mr (George Helstroom) said in a statement issued this morning that the process had been completed successfully. At the start of the operation ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] stressed that the fuel, which is still inactive, posed no radiation dangers to the public. The first unit is to go into operation before next winter.

SWAZILAND

OAU Delegation Discusses Refugee Situation

MB041557 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] A three-man OAU delegation led by Nigerian Ambassador Mr A. Blankson called on the deputy prime minister, Senator Ben Nsibandze, this morning. The delegation, which also comprises Zimbabwe's ambassador, Dr T.J. Jonkonya, and the OAU's Bureau for Refugees official, Mr (I.C. Imponzi), discussed with the deputy prime minister the setting up of a forum in the southern Africa region to discuss the refugee problem. According to the deputy prime minister's principal secretary, Mr A.R. Shabangu, the main objective of the delegation's visit is to discuss refugee problems in the southern Africa region. Senator Nsibandze also discussed with the delegation the burden-sharing of the refugees impasse with other neighboring states, as Swaziland is the main center for refugees coming from other neighboring states in the southern Africa region.

Asked whether the OAU has a special fund to cater for African refugees, Mr Blankson told the deputy prime minister that such a fund is presently not available but added that the organization usually responds to any request made to it in order to help in this regard. The delegation also disclosed that after the completion of their study tour of southern African countries they will present a report to the OAU Council of Ministers. The delegation will visit the Ndzevana Refugee Rural Settlement Scheme. They are expected to visit other places during their stay in the country before they leave on Monday.

2 Members of Royal Family, Others Detained

MB041439 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 4 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] The daughter of 60-day detainee Douglas Lukhele is being held at Mbabane police station. Mrs Bonisile Bello, who is a business woman, was picked up from her Mobeni South flat on Wednesday morning. A family member said Mrs Bello was taken by plainclothes police as she prepared to go to work in Manzini. Her husband could not be contacted for comment. It is also believed that two members of the Royal Family are being held at Mbabane police station. They are Prince Matatazela, an employee of Royal Swazi National Airways, and the wife of another 60-day detainee, Prince Sulumlomo. Prince Matatazela was picked up from his Sikhobho flats home in Mbabane on Tuesday evening. A member of his family said he was taken away by four plainclothes police. The wife of Prince Sulumlomo, Inkhosikati LaDvube, was also picked up at her Mbabane home early this week.

A fourth person, Princess Ncane, was also reported to be in police custody. She is a civil servant employed by the Department of Mines and Geological Surveys. A senior official at police headquarters confirmed the arrests, but could not give details.

ZIMBABWE

UN Delegation Concludes Talks on Economic Aid

MB050917 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Text] The UN delegation to Zimbabwe yesterday concluded talks with the government on areas where the UN can help the country economically in the wake of racial South Africa's destabilization. The three-man delegation, which arrived in Zimbabwe last Wednesday, is expected to leave Harare, for Lusaka, Zambia today. A spokesman for the delegation said as a matter of urgency the UN would like to give full support and help to frontline states to enable them to defend their sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and freedom from economic dependence on South Africa.

Muzorewa Reported Well; Hunger Strike Continues

MB081854 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1835 GMT 8 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 8, SAPA — The detained UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, is well despite having been on hunger strike in jail since last Tuesday, according to his doctor. Dr Silas Mundawarara said today he had visited Bishop Muzorewa for 15 minutes yesterday. "All I can say is that the bishop is well." The doctor, who is also a top lieutenant in the bishop's party, said he had visited him as his personal physician. He refused to elaborate on what he described as "an analysis of the bishop's health" until he had the permission of his patient.

Meanwhile, Bishop Muzorewa's 26-year-old son, Philemon, was freed today after about 24 hours in custody. He said he had been threatened by "special agents" because of "recent statements I have made about the government," but was released last night. It was not clear from either Mr Philemon Muzorewa or the government whether any charges were pending against him.

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested on Monday last week by two Central Intelligence Organisation officers at his Borrowdale home. The minister of state security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, said the bishop was being held for investigations into allegations that he was connected with the activities of "South African bandits." The UANC has denied this, claiming that the ruling ZANU (PF) party was harassing the bishop.